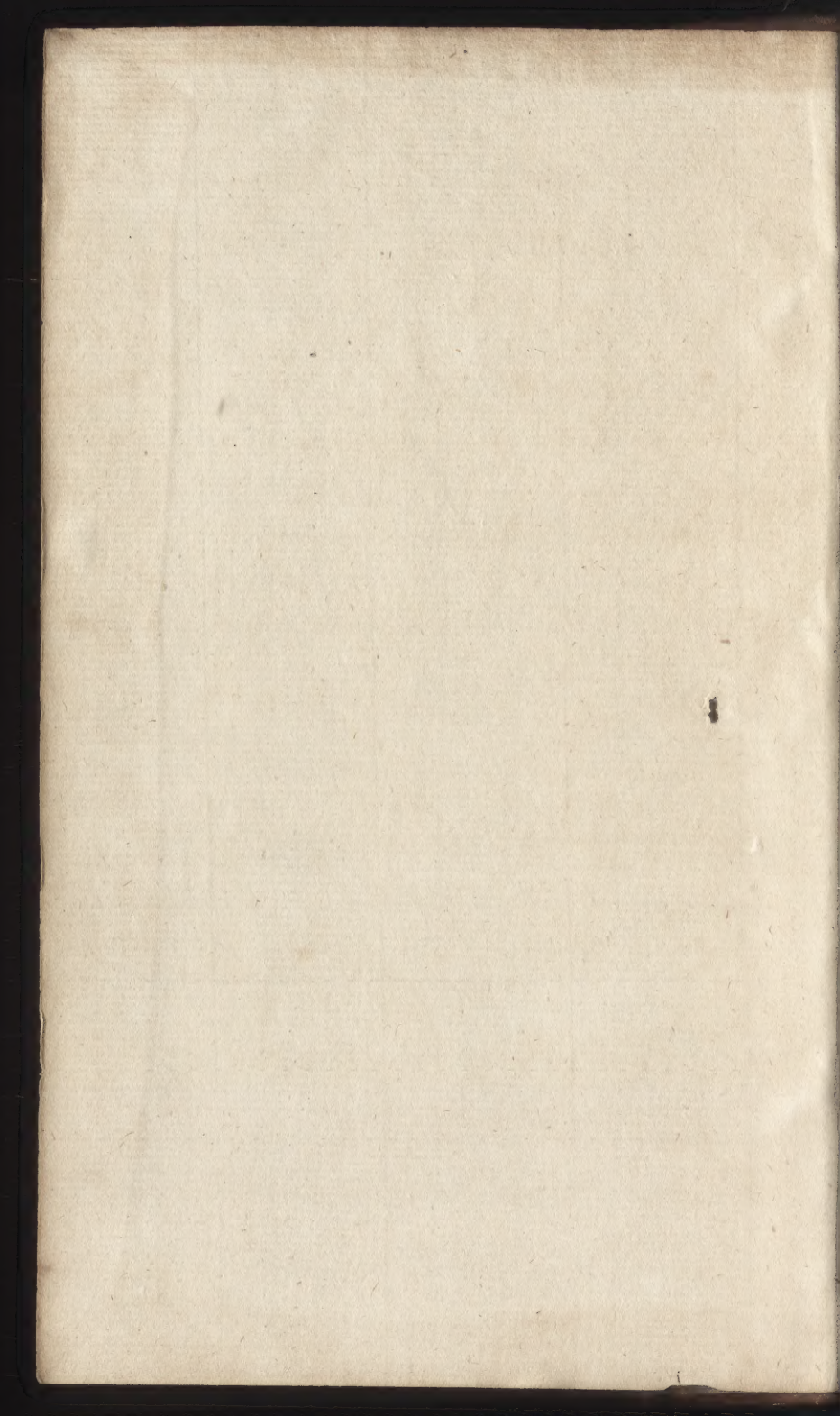


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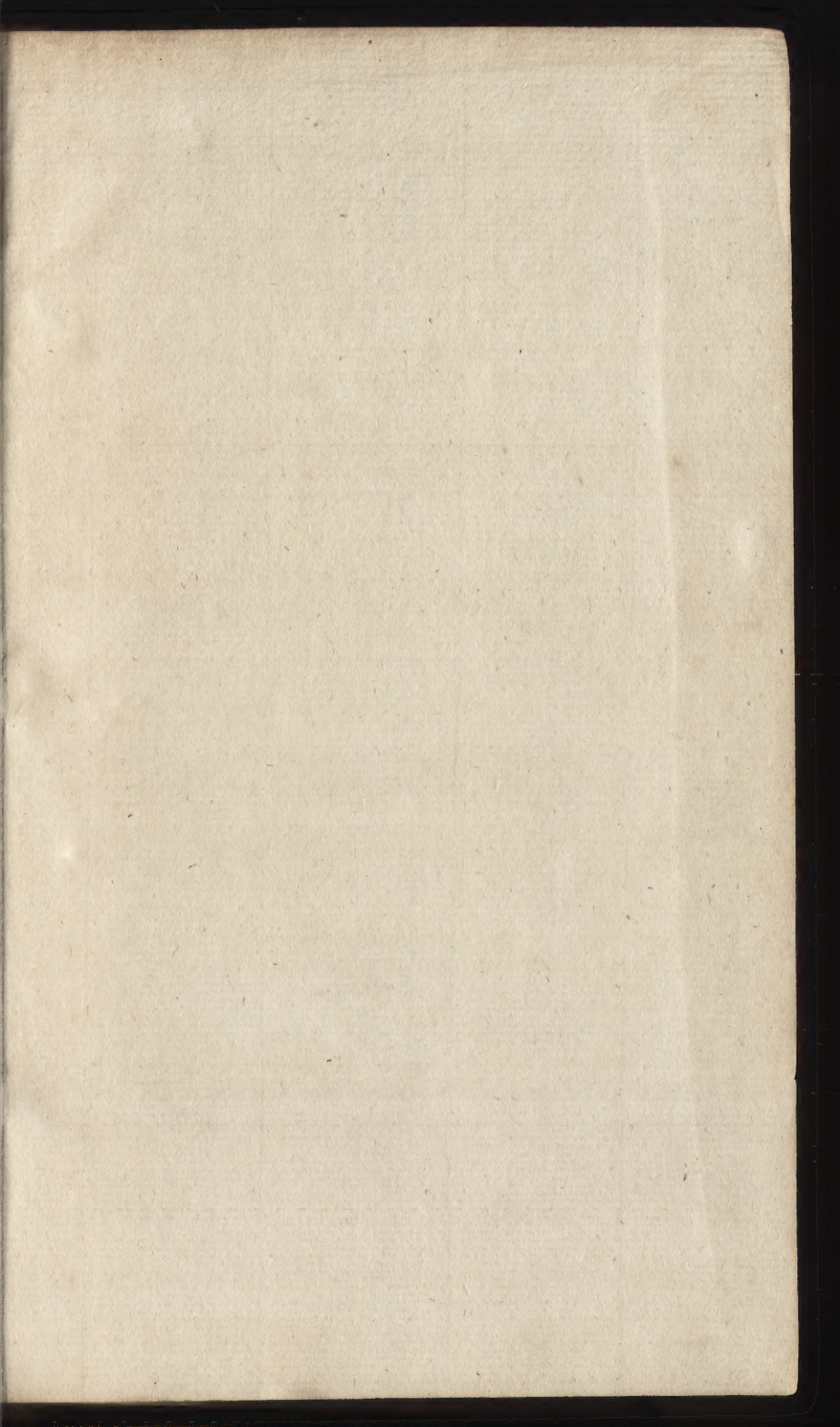
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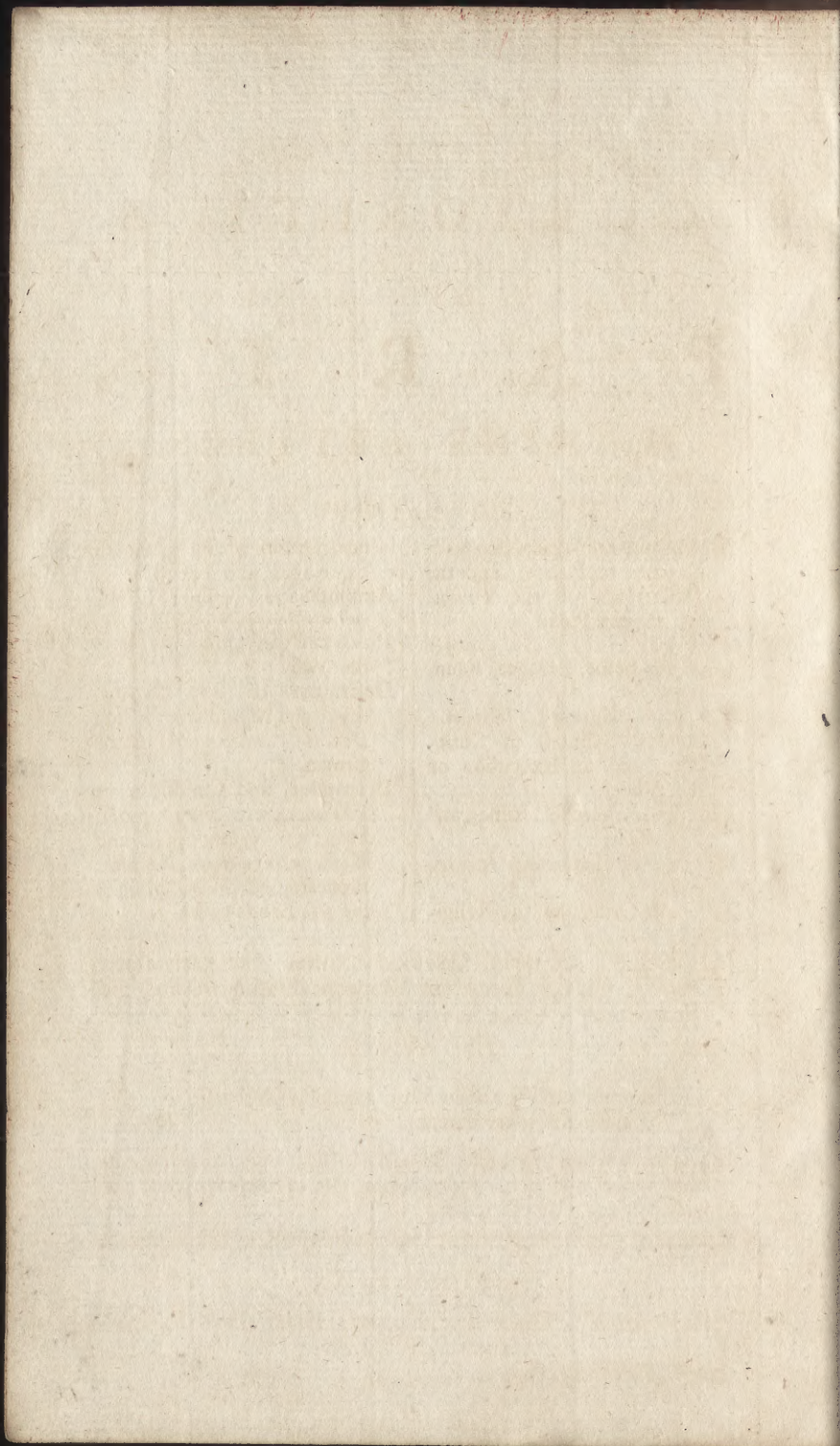


MS











THE  
CURIOSITIES  
OF  
PARIS,  
In NINE LETTERS.

CONTAINING

The Manner of Travelling from  
CALAIS to PARIS, and the  
Description of the Towns,  
&c. on the Road.

Description of PARIS, Course  
of the Seine, Bridges, Foun-  
tains, &c.

Palaces, Paintings, Gardens,  
Statues, Cabinets of Curio-  
sities, and an Execution on  
the Wheel.

Hospitals, Churches, Relics, and  
Processions.

Squares, Statues, and Inscrip-  
tions.

Different Orders of the Religi-

ous, Orders of Knighthood,  
Equipages, and Theatres.

Amphitheatres, public Libra-  
ries, Colleges, Nunneries, &c.  
and the Ceremony of taking  
the Veil.

Description of ST. CLOUD,  
the Royal Mausoleum of ST.  
DENNIS, and Regalia of the  
Crown.

Description and Curiosities at  
VERSAILLES, TRIANON,  
MARLI, Waterworks, and  
Machine, Gardens, Statues,  
Procession of the Knights of  
the ST. ESPRIT, &c. &c.

Interspersed with useful OBSERVATIONS, and particularly  
adapted for the Perusal of Chirurgical Students and the  
Traveller.

By A. R.

*Si quid novisti rectius istis, candidus imperti ;  
Si non, his utere mecum.*

HOR.

If you have made any better Remarks of your own, communicate  
them with Candour ; if not, make Use of these I present you  
with.

---

L O N D O N :

Printed for W. OWEN, at Homer's Head, near Temple-  
Bar, Fleet-Street.

# Mineral Waters.

**A**T OWEN's Original MINERAL WATER Warehouse in *Fleet-Street*, which hath been established in its Reputation for near fifty Years, the Nobility, Gentry, and Faculty, may be assured of having the following Waters (from the great Call for them at this Original Water Warehouse) always in the utmost Perfection, for ready Money, as hath been the usual Custom of this Trade, and at the lowest Prices.

GERMAN SPA, filled at the *Pouhon Spring*, in whole and half Flasks; PYRMONT, in three-pint Bottles; SELTZER, in large Stone Bottles; NEVIL HOLT Water, from *Dr. Short*; BRISTOL Hot-well Water, from *Smith and Woodall*; HARAGATE SPA Water; WILTSHIRE HOLT Water; TILBURY Alterative Water, from the *Original Spring*; CHELTENHAM; BATH; SCARBOROUGH; MALVERN; JESSOP's Well, or STOKES; ACTON; DOG and DUCK; TAR-WATER, made agreeable to Bishop *Berkley's* Directions; and SEA-WATER, taken up several Leagues at Sea. Also *Dr. Ruffel's* Dissertation on the Use of the Sea-Water, with *Dr. Speed's* Commentary, Price 3s. in Boards and blue Paper.

*Scarborough, Cheltenham, and Acton Salts.*

N. B. The Foreign Waters are taken up at such Times only; when they are in full Vigour, and approved by the Physicians both of *Pyrmont* and *Spa*; as will more fully appear by several Certificates under their Hands and Seals, as well as those from the Magistrates of *Spa*; who have in the strongest Manner asserted and recommended the Skill, Care, and long Experience, of My AGENT at *Spa*, in taking up the *Pouhon* Water in the most proper Season, and at the only fit Times, and securing the Flasks after the most improved Method, most effectually to retain and preserve their Mineral Spirit. And as several Journeys have been taken both to *Pyrmont* and *Spa*, to settle the best Correspondence, in order to import the Foreign Waters in the utmost Perfection, so I have no Doubt but they will meet with general Approbation.

Note, *Bath, Bristol, Cheltenham, Malvern, Holt, Jessop's Well, Sea, Acton, Dog and Duck* Waters, come constantly fresh every Week.

To prevent Impositions, I beg the Favour of those who are pleased to honour me with their Commands, to direct that the Messenger, or Agent, do always bring back one of my printed Bills, with a Receipt, signed by their most obedient Servant,

W. OWEN.



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# P R E F A C E.

**A**T the Time I was going to leave England, a particular Friend recommended to me the keeping of a Journal, or at least to take Notes of every Thing memorable which should occur during my Absence: By this Means I should discharge my Memory of a Number of Subjects, which in all Probability would otherwise soon slip out of it. After this useful Instruction, he further insisted that I should digest these Notes into Order, and by Letter communicate to him all my Observations, for his private Entertainment. These Preliminaries being adjusted by a peremptory Demand of a Friend, who I could not disoblige, I hastily complied, not knowing, at that Time, the many laborious Hours I had to

encounter by pursuing his Plan : However, as I had given my Promise, I endeavoured to fulfil it. All the Apology I can make for their Publication, is no more than that the following Letters were the Subjects of near twice the Number, which passed from PARIS to LONDON, during my fourteen Months Residence in that City. At my Return I found that these Letters, which were designed only for his private Entertainment, had been bandied about among his Acquaintance with various Success, sometimes attended with severe Criticisms, and sometimes the contrary.

However, my Friend was so indulging to restore me these Letters, upon Consideration that I should revise and correct them at my leisure Hours, and return him a Copy. Thus this Embrio, from a Variety of Alterations, had its first Formation. I shall not be very anxious whether these Letters (like many of our modern periodical Works) live for a Moment and fall in Oblivion. I have no high Esteem of the Performance, nor could I possibly discern my Errors; it would be unpardonable in me if I could, and did not amend them :



them: Indeed I found it more difficult to correct than it was to write, as the Chain of my Thoughts at this Time was far removed from the Object, and consequently the Spirit (from the Variety of Subjects) much flagg'd, dry, and vastly difficult to alter with tolerable Vivacity; therefore I could only curtail the Number of Letters, make some Alterations in regard to the Language, and digest and class them into a more regular Order.

I now principally intend them for the Perusal of such Gentlemen who intend to take a Tour to Paris: I dare affirm, that the descriptive Part is as near as possible to the Truth; and no material Place is omitted, either in the City or adjacent Towns, which are worth viewing by the Eye of a Stranger. I flatter myself, that those Gentlemen (of my Acquaintance) who have been there, will likewise find some Satisfaction in the Perusal, as it will recal to their Memory, the many pleasing Scenes, &c. they enjoyed in Paris: How far I have succeeded in my Design, is left to every one to judge. I have concealed my Name, for two Motives; the first, to avoid

public Censure ; and the second, to avoid Applause (if any is due.) It would be much more agreeable to hear the concealed Author approved than condemned ; yet whatever is their Fate I shall rest equally contented, as it will be in the Power of but few Persons to throw out any personal Censure.

I hope they will be in some Measure useful to such who go there merely through Curiosity, as they will be here conducted to every Part of the City, and adjacent Parts worthy of their Inspection ; but more particularly useful to medical and chirurgical Students, whose chief Interest I keep in View ; for had I been furnished with these or such like Hints, before I went to France, the Obligation would have been highly acceptable. I have now done with the Apology (in regard to their Publication) — so let them take their Fate.

Finding no Placé more proper than the Preface, to speak a few Words to my chirurgical Readers, who intend taking a Tour to this famous Metropolis, it may not be improper now to enter upon this Topic.



In regard to the Practice of Physic in France, it is at a low Ebb, and I think not worth a medical Student's While to go there, the Professors being mostly Theorists, and the Practice exceeding concise; mostly consisting in Ptisans, unmerciful Bleedings, Glysters, and many less effectual Prescriptions; which are here repeated *Iterum atque Iterum*, until Death interferes, *Vel Natura evincit Morbum. Medicus paucorum remediorum*. A Physician with few Medicines, is an old Maxim; and several great Men have declared, that the more simple the Practice of Physic is the better: If so, the French Physicians have done their Parts in reducing its Copiousness. DESAULT has compared seven or eight of the best Medicines in Physic, to seven or eight Tones in Music; the harmonious Combination of which composes all Sorts of Tunes, and the most melodious Concerts, through the Skill of an able Musician. VIRGIL (in his *Æneid*) calls Physic "A dumb Art, *mutas Artes*," intimating that it requires rather Reflection and Meditation than Words and Eloquence; and SYDENHAM tells us, that great Physiologists are  
com-

commonly but middling Practitioners. (SYD. Præfat. de Prodigra.) However well the present French Physicians observe these Maxims let every one judge who are acquainted with their Method of Practice : Yet it is allowed by most of the medical Gentlemen, that Physic is here far from its *dernier* Perfection, and much better taught at Edinburgh and London.

Students in Surgery may indeed receive great Advantages from their public Hospitals, as they may see a Multiplicity of Operations, and a Variety of Cases; besides the great Advantage of attending several Hospitals, the Lectures in Anatomy, Operations, Midwifery, physical Lectures and Disputations, with regular Courses on Bandages; such as the anatomical, botanical, chymical, and chirurgical Operations, and Lectures at the King's Gardens; Courses in Anatomy, and Operations at the medical School; Anatomy, Operations, and Midwifery at ST. COSME: All which public Courses every Student may, if he pleases, attend gratis. If they do not chuse to attend these Lectures, which are always



crowded with Barbers Garçons (who are all Surgeons) they may attend the private Courses of the public Professors, who are reasonable in their Prices : Though I must at the same Time acknowledge, that Messieurs HUNTER and SMELLIE, in London, are equal, if not superior, to any of the celebrated Professors in Paris.

I would recommend to the Students of the London Hospitals, the continual Assiduity which these Garçons labour at their Studies ; for most of the Barbers here understand the practical Part of Anatomy (Dissecting) better than the Majority of our English Surgeons.

Botany, a Study formerly in Esteem in England, but now almost neglected by Students, is in Paris in the greatest Perfection ; and every young Fellow, by his diligent Application, is a Botanist, which I mention to the great Honour and candid Disinterestedness of Messieurs JUSSIEU's, Professors royal in Botany at the King's Gardens ; (Gentlemen well known among the Learned) who walk with the Students into the Country weekly,  
during

during the proper Season a-botanizing, besides shewing and explaining the Plants in the King's Garden: These Gentlemen, by their free communicative Behaviour, are universally esteemed by the Students of every Nation.

The most noted Professors in Paris, are Messieurs De la FAYE and GAREGEOT, royal Professors at ST. COSME for Surgery and Operations; Messieurs GERVAIS and BARBOTE, Professors at ST. COSME for Midwifery; Monsieur LEVRET, private Professor and Teacher in Midwifery, and the most esteemed of any in Paris. The Method which Students are to take in this Study is as follows: They first go through a private Course of Lectures with this Gentleman, for which they pay two Guineas, and then enter their Name in the sage Femme or Midwife's Book, giving a proper Address to their Lodging: Once a Week they must attend the Midwife, at which Time are sometimes fifteen or twenty Women, at different Periods of their Pregnancy, each of whom the Students examine, and pay every Woman six Sous (Threepence English.) When any of these Women are in Labour, they



they are brought to the sage Femme's House, where the Pupils have immediate Notice to attend; for being present they pay three Livres (half a Crown) but if they please they may themselves deliver, which is attended with an additional Expence of three Livres more. In all præternatural Cases the Professor is sent for; and if he delivers the Woman by Instruments, each Pupil pays six Livres to the Midwife.

Messieurs LOUIS and SIMON, royal Professors at ST. COSME for Physiology; Messieurs ANDOUILLE and RUFFEL, royal Professors at ST. COSME for Pathology; Messieurs HEVIN and BASSUEL, royal Professors at ST. COSME for Therapeutic; Messieurs DUPLESSIS and SUE, royal Professors at ST. COSME for Anatomy; Messieurs FARREIN and MERTRUDE, royal Professors at the King's Gardens for Anatomy and Operations; Monsieur ROUELLE, royal Professor at the King's Gardens for the practical Part of Chemistry; Monsieur HALLE, royal Professor at the medical School for Anatomy and Operations; Monsieur ASTRUC, royal Professor  
at

at the College Royal for medical Lectures; and lastly, the famous Abbé NOLLET, royal Professor for natural and experimental Philosophy. These several Professors have a sufficient Allowance from the Crown; and Students of every Nation may attend all the Lectures and Experiments gratis.

Most of the above Gentlemen give private Courses at their own Houses, which are reasonable; and the Students pay for every injected Subject (which they dissect under the Inspection and Direction of the Professor) forty Livres; and this is their own Property. Their private anatomical Lectures are curious, and I would recommend all Gentlemen to attend them, rather than be crowded by the Barbers at their public Courses: Finally, I must particularly recommend, that all Students lay their own Hands to the Work, more especially in Operations, Dissecting, and in applying Bandages; by this Means, they will learn more Dexterity and Knowledge in four Months, than by hearing the Lectures and viewing the dissected Parts, they can possibly attain in one Year. In these Studies I would  
recommend



recommend Messieurs MORREAU and PETIT for Operations, Monsieur SUE for Anatomy, and DESDIER for Bandages.

In regard to their Hospital Practice, they will find many Cases treated in as judicious a Manner as they are in any Country, and their Fertility of inventing Bandages (not described in Authors) excelling most. Their most unsuccessful Cases are the compound Fractures, which are generally fatal; which is, I imagine, in a great Measure owing to their too plentiful Use of hot Spirits; a little will undoubtedly be useful, but sure there can be no Necessity for their par-boiling the whole Member twice a Day, both Dressings and Bandages in Brandy: By this Means the Digestion never comes on kindly, and often none at all. The Patient, by the Digestion being stopped, is soon thrown into an high Fever; an Inflammation begins, which is generally followed by a Gangrene, and in a few Days that fatal Period Death. These compound Cases I mention as a Beacon, that none may pursue their Method of Practice in the preposterous Use of Spirits; for from Experience I speak, after having seen  
Numbers

Numbers die through this Treatment, which would have recovered in England.

In Lythotomy they follow the old Method, by cutting through the ligamentous Part of the Urethra: These Patients are commonly reserved until the general Day, when they perform the Operation on eight or twelve different People in a Morning. The Operation by this Method is generally tedious, more especially if the Stone is large; though I may truly say, the Surgeons meet with great Success in these Cases: The lateral Operation (according to Mr. CHESELDEN's Improvement) is seldom practised here, and will scarcely ever be universally received, as it has the Disadvantage of coming from a Nation they cordially despise (through Affectation) for surgical Knowledge.

The Suture of the Tendo Achillis is entirely laid aside. In this Case they only relax the Muscles of the Foot and Leg, and retain it in that Position, by proper Bandages, about six or eight Weeks, at which Time the Union is generally accomplished: I mean in such Cases  
where





copious Suppuration from the affected Part, which fell in Contact with the Bougie. Upon which Considerations, I think we may not be so very anxious after Mr. DARAN's Arcanum, since the Composition of Mr. SHARP's Bougie (in his Critical Enquiry) is equal to any they have in France.

In Amputations below the Knee or Elbow, and sometimes above, in Aneurisms and large incised Wounds, where the Blood Vessels are divided, they have partly laid aside the Ligature; and I have frequently seen the Agaric \*

\* This Styptic is called by Botanists,  
*Agaricus pedis equini*, Fig. INST. REI HERBAR.  
*Fungi Arborei ad Ellychnia*. J. B.  
*Fungi Ignarii*. CISALPINI et TRAGI.  
*Boletus acaulis pulvinatus lævis poris tenuissimis*. LINN.  
 FLOR. SUCC.

Monsieur BROSSART, who first introduced this Preparation into Practice, conceives, that that which grows upon old Oaks which have been lopped, is the most valuable; that it should be gathered in August or September, and kept in a dry Room. Messieurs MORAND and JUSSEU think that the Agaric, which when growing is of a greyish Colour on the Outside, is better than that which is white.

The Way of preparing it is, to take off with a Knife the white and hard Part, till you find a Substance so soft, as to yield under the Finger like Shammoy Leather. This is to be divided into Pieces of different Sizes and Thickness; beat these with a Hammer to give them a Degree of Softness, so that they may be easily torn with the Finger.

used

used in these and similar Cases with the greatest Success. This Styptic has been succeeded by another, which was brought into Practice in France by the King's Farrier, Monsieur le FOSSE; it is known in England under the Name of Fungus Ovatus, or Fusse Balls.

But of all their Inventions, they seem to esteem the Method of taking away the salivating Property of Mercury the greatest; of which they use a large Quantity each Friction, without fearing the rising of a Sputum. The Composition of the Unguent, the Method of destroying its salivating Quality, and Manner of using it, is as follows:

*R.* Argent. Viv. ʒiij. (Solv. in Tereb. Venet. q. f.)  
Axung. Porcin. ʒj. Camph. ʒij. fiat Unguentum.

Monsieur RAULIN the Inventor informs us, " That, in the Year 1752, he frequently used the common mercurial Ointment, and followed the Method of Extinction; but had often the Misfortune to see, that the greatest Precautions could not hinder the dreadful Effects of that Preparation on weak Constitutions:



tions: Therefore I resolved, after the Example of HALLER and HOFFMAN, to mix a proportional Quantity of Camphire in the Unguent; and these very Constitutions, whom two Drams of the common Ointment greatly disordered, bore now two Ounces of the Ointment, with the Addition of Camphire. Being thus encouraged with Success, I gave others five Drams at each Friction, and omitted an Interval of three Days between the Frictions, and often only two Days. There never happened the least Inconveniency; and the Patients did not keep their Chambers one Day, when the Weather was tolerable: Yet it can only be known, by repeated Experiments, whether this Quantity will suffice for all Constitutions." (*Vide Lettre sur les Maladies Veneriennes, dans laquelle on publié la Maniere de préparer le Mercure, dont la plus forte dose n'excite point de Salivation, par Monsieur LOUIS, Professeur Royal en Chirurgie. Imprimé a Paris.*)

The above Quotation is a sufficient Indication, that in most venereal Cases salivating is laid aside, and the Method of Extinction and

hot Bathing substituted in its Place, with which they meet with great Success.

Thus I have recapitulated the most material Points, wherein the French Practice differs from the English, as far as I could possibly judge from attending their Hospitals fourteen Months ; but, for the other Parts of Surgery, whether in regard to Operations, Wounds, Fractures, &c. &c. I think their Practice is partly similar to that in England.

I am far from persuading young Gentlemen to take my bare Word in these Particulars ; no, I would have them diligently attend their Hospitals, and apply themselves close to Observation, which will be much more laudable than imitating the Beau-monde in all their Fopperies. The great BOERHAAVE made it an inviolable Rule, to divide his Time between Study and Practice : And Surgery requires much Pains and Application, in order to obtain the closest View of Nature : We ought to make ourselves Masters of all the Helps, which known Observations and Experiments jointly furnish ; and not a single Discovery in the Course of Practice ought to escape our Know-

Knowledge. Without this Application many skilful Practitioners, of large Practice, will be ignorant of the Improvements which are familiar to the junior Surgeons.

Continual Study is necessary in Practice, as in Anatomy, for without we are solicitous to search after new Discoveries; our Labour will be no more than a servile Task, an Imitation, a mere Repetition of the Labours of our Predecessors. Practice gives only the Dexterity of the Hand, and not the Genius and Knowledge which ought to regulate it. We formerly knew no other Method of stopping the Blood in Amputations, than the cruel Application of the actual Cautery, until PAREY happily discovered and taught us the Method of tying up the Vessels; and even within these few Years, Surgery has been further enriched, by finding out the styptic Quality of the Agaric of the Oak. What useful Hints and Expedients has Physic received, since the Peruvian Bark has been introduced into Practice, in intermitting and gangrenous Cases, &c. and what Lights has not Mercury given us, in venereal and obstinate ulcerous Disorders, &c. in-somuch that we may justly apply to Mercury,  
the



the Praises which our great SYDENHAM bestowed on Opium. " I thank God, that he has been pleased to give Mankind, to alleviate their Pains, a Remedy of this Importance, fit to sooth so many Complaints, and to cure them effectually."

Though I earnestly recommend to my Brothers, a diligent Application to Study and Practice, yet I am very sensible, that all young Practitioners labour under great Difficulties, to accommodate foreign Observations to English Practice, as many are not calculated for our Climate, and some, to be followed with Caution: Yet notwithstanding these Difficulties, let us imitate the French Nation in their close Application; Study will soon become pleasing, and Knowledge entertaining, by pursuing this laudable Maxim of the immortal BOERHAAVE. " I formerly never visited a Patient, without writing down all the Signs and Symptoms according as they occurred; and by this Means, it is almost incredible how much I improved. If you take this Method through four or five Disorders of every Class, you will ever after easily distinguish the like Diseases." (Academical Lectures, Vol. VI. p. 128.)



## FRENCH COINS.

### BRASS, OR COPPER MONEY.

- Denier* - - - - - The twelfth Part of a French Penny.  
*Liard* - - - - - Or French Farthing.  
*Sol, or Sou* - - - French Penny.  
*Siliard* - - - - - Or one Sou and a half.  
*Deux Sol pièce* - - Twopence their Money.

### SILVER COINS.

- Douze Sol pièce* - - - - - Twelvepence French.  
*Vingt quart Sol pièce* - - Double the Value of the former.  
*A Livre* is twenty Sols. This is an imaginary coin as our Pound is.  
*Petit Ecù* - - - - - Makes three Livres, or sixty Sols.  
*Ecù* - - - - - Or Great Crown-piece, is double the Value of the former.

### GOLD COINS.

- Half a Louis d'Or* - - - - - Is twelve Livres.  
*Lous d'Or* - - - - - Is twenty-four Livres, or the French Guinea.  
*Double Louis d'Or* - - - - - A two Guinea Piece, and scarce, as indeed are all the Gold Coins in Paris.



## LETTER I.

### The Method of travelling from CALAIS to PARIS in their Stage- Coach.

JANUARY, 23, 1754.

SIR,



YOU demanded, at our last Interview, ' That I transmit from Time to Time a Description of the Places I pass through, the Curiosities which are worthy the Observation of a Foreigner, during my Residence in France, with their Manner of travelling in general.---I would gladly be acquitted of this difficult Injunction, much doubting my Capacity, and Ability, will greatly fall short of your sanguine Enquiry; yet, not totally to disoblige you, shall endeavour to recount my Journey from London to Paris in a cursory manner; which I hope you will find more somniferous than Opium, and induce you to lay aside your ardent Desire for Enquiry, unless your Friend

B

the



the Dictator had greater Ability to satisfy your Curiosity.

If you recall your Memory you'll remember how chearfully I parted with England, in high Expectation of Improvement by Assiduity in the Arts and Sciences, which France is at present esteemed for. That I may not disgust you with a long Preface, I shall begin my Journey from CALAIS, where I arrived extremely sick, after being three Days on the Passage: Immediately on our landing we were brought to the Guard-room, near the Gates of the Town, where my Baggage was examined by the Custom-house Officers, to see we brought nothing contraband into the Dominions of the Grand Monarch, as they stile him. Here I was obliged to enter my Name into a Book, which they call the NOTAMINA: After a great deal of Trouble, and many Compliments, they delivered the Passengers to five meagre Soldiers, who placed us as Prisoners between them, and hurried us to the Commandant, or Deputy-Governor of the Town: Here was performed a Farce I little expected: Being arrived in the Governor's

vernor's Kitchen, the Corporal of the Guard, after several Compliments to the Cook, informed him of three English Gentlemen's Arrival at Calais, who were come to pay their Respects to his Honour the Commandant. The Cook (at this Time was preparing Coffee, and diverting himself with whistling) survey'd us with a supercilious Eye, and, after some Minutes Attendance, and reiterating the same Speech by our commanding Officer, the Cook was pleas'd to say, " Gentlemen, his Honour is at present in Bed, he congratulates your Arrival into the French Dominions, and, if you proceed higher up into the Country, sincerely wishes you a good Journey."----Thus this Protæus, who could form Soups, Fricassies, and Ragoes, beyond human Comprehension to guess their Composition, delivered his Master's Compliment, without stirring from the Fire, with a thousand Shrugs and Cringes. No Wonder indeed that Foreigners laugh at such trifling Ceremonies. Being dismissed by Monsieur Cuisinier, I returned at large to the Port-gate for my Baggage, where the Officers informed me I must send it to the Custom-house to be plumb'd, and

#### 4                    The CURIOSITIES

get a PASSAVANA. Without any further Notice the Porters seized my Concerns, and ran away to the Custom-house. I found these Porters most imposing Rascals, as they demand, and will have, for every separate Piece they carry ten Sols, (five Pence English) though it be but the Space of twenty Yards in Length; not a Sword or a Cane can escape them, for they immediately whip it upon their thin Shoulders, without Orders, *sans Ceremonie*, which gave me the first Idea of their national Assurance. If you expostulate on their enormous Impositions, you labour in vain; the Officer tells you it's their Privilege, and Monsieur Portier, with an Air of Consequence, says, "It be not de Ting for Gentlemen to carry de Tings of Porters." You'll readily imagine I was too much fatigued by my Voyage and their troublesome Grimace to tarry longer than possible among these Gentry, therefore I repaired to the Inn, and refresh'd myself with Soup. I took my Place that Evening in the Stage Coach, which was to set out in a few Days. Here I shall just mention Calais in a cursory way, for, as my Stay in several Places which I shall



shall pass through will not exceed a few Days in each, you must be contented with such a brief Account of them as I shall be able to procure in so short a Time.

CALAIS or CALIS was formerly a noted Sea-port and strong City, and occasioned much Disturbance in former Reigns, as the Annals of England plainly shew, being taken in 1347 by King EDWARD III. and lost by Queen MARY in 1557, who declared in her last Illness, "That if they would look into her Heart being dead, they would find CALAIS written there." It is situated in Lower Picardy, and stands on the Sea, is about thirty Miles S. E. of Dover, and ninety-six S. E. of London.—Though the Fortifications were formerly so formidable, yet now the universal Wreck of Nature shews its annihilating Power, though the Lines, &c. are far from being despicable. Calais is garrisoned by six Battalions in the Time of Peace, or three thousand Soldiers, two thousand of which are French, and one thousand Irish. A strict Discipline is always observed among the Troops, and the Ramparts are continually guarded, so that the

least Proof of Desertion is attended with Death. I must further observe, that Calais at first View seems a mean Place, and Poverty seems to stare out of every Window. The Houses are ill built, the Inhabitants are far from being rich, and in Time of War, when the Thoroughfare is shut up between it, and England, must undoubtedly suffer greatly. A few Days I found produce a great Contrast between the English and French Nation---no more roast Beef, Plumb Pudding, &c. &c. but Soups, Fricaseys, Ragoos, and thin Wines; no more the Face of Gravity and Industry, but Affectation, Foppery, and Gaiety. Tho' it was now the Depth of Winter, the Inhabitants were all volatile, the *petit Maitres* went open-breasted, with Silk Stockings, thick Coats and Waistcoats, and large Muffs and Umbrellas under their Arm, and, to make them a-la-mode, their Hair powdered and decorated to the polite *Gout* at Paris, which is always accompanied with the finishing Stroke of an immoderate long Sword, and *Chapeau Bras* (Hat under the Arm;) such fanfaron Cloathings, that July and January are generally seen in the same Person.

Nor

Nor is the Contrast less striking between their Stage-Coaches and ours, for the Paris Voiture is an odd Machine, something in the Shape of a Coach, but twice as large: Both before, and behind the Body of the Coach are placed large covered Baskets; in these Receptacles all the Goods which are sent from the Provinces to Paris are deposited, which serve instead of the Waggon Carriages as in England. Each Person gives for his Place thirty Livres, and takes his Seat according to his Priority of paying his Money; first come, first Choice, which he keeps all the Way, not changing, as in the English Stages, which is not at all consisting with that Complaisance they esteem themselves so much for; the four last Persons, who engage for their Places, sit at the Windows, two on each Side; which is so contrived, that their Feet hang down, and their Heads are equal in Height to the Knees of such who sit in the Body of the Coach. Eight Horses draw this Carriage constantly, which are yoked in Pairs by Ropes; and two Waggoners, or, as they call them, Coachmen, walk with the Horses, to keep them



on a quick Walk, which is their constant Rate.

On Monday Morning I left Calais, in a mixed Company of English, French, and Dutch, and dined at a small Village called MARQUISE, in the Province of Picardy, and in the Evening entered the Gates of BOULOGNE.

BOULOGNE, or BOLOGNE, stands on the Sea, on the Mouth of the River LENART, where is a convenient Haven. This is a Town of some Strength, and garrisoned. It stands in lower Picardy, and is a Bishoprick under the Archbishop of Rheims. It is twenty-four Miles S. W. of CALAIS, and an hundred and twenty-five N. of PARIS. This City appears to be tolerably built, tho' the Entertainment is not at all answerable, for the Spirit of Imposition, and dirty Cookery, was here the same as at Calais. Our Coachman drove the Voiture up to the Stable Door to leave the Horses, and brought us a Quarter of a Mile through the Streets, a Foot deep in Snow, to the Inn, which greatly resembles an English Barn. This  
Day's

Day's Journey was excessive uncomfortable, for it snowed all Day, and the Coach had not a proper Conveniency of keeping out the bad Weather, so that the Snow beat full in our Faces.---Here Patience was a Virtue.----The Snow continuing all Night, and the Roads being very deep, we had ten Horses to draw our ponderous Machine, and four Coachmen to drive them. We dined at the poor Village of SAMES, and came in the Evening into MONTREUIL.

MONTREUIL is a strong Town, with a Castle, and stands in lower Picardy on a high Hill, from whence its Name is derived, near which runs the River CANCHE. The Houses and Entertainment we found not very elegant, but the same imposing Disposition of the Innkeepers still prevailed. Montreuil is nineteen Miles S. of Bologne. After Supper an Irish Officer and I went to a Wedding Ball, the Company of which consisted of about fifty Couple of Peasants. A Master of the Ceremonies conducted the Affair with the greatest Regularity and Decorum, and, from the Age of eight to eighty, each Person danced Minuets before  
the

the Country Dances. Here we were obliged to exhibit, though in Boots, as the French regard every Person as unpolite and as boorish as a Dutchman, if they refuse to dance at their Assemblies. During the Ball there came in several Sets of Maskers in droll Dresses, who all danced, and, after a thousand apish Tricks, made their Exit, to give Place to others. This depraved Taste may to the Splenetick be entertaining, but to the Volatile quite absurd and ridiculous. Here we had another Specimen of the French Familiarity, for all the Men, *sans Ceremoniè*, sat on the Womens Knees. At four o'Clock in the Morning we got into the Coach, and had the Mortification to wait an Hour before the Soldiers would open the Gates of this polite Town.

Dined at BERNAY, a poor Village, and came in the Evening into ABBEVILLE.----- This is a strong and beautiful City in Picardy, stands on the River SOMME, fifty-five Miles S. of CALAIS, and eighty-four almost N. of PARIS, is a Bishoprick under the Archbishop of RHEIMS. This City is the principal in France for the Woollen Trade,



Trade, and the Cloths are said to excel those of LEEDS. This Place is full of Convents and Religious, or, we may say, full of useless Members to Society, who are sequester'd from the World, and live as Drones, a Burden to the Community in general.

Early the next Morning we saluted the rising Sun, and came to a despicable poor Cabin in the Village of ARIANA. The Dinner proved here so exceeding dirty and ill dressed, that the Officer and I walked before the Coach to another Inn about six Miles off, which the Machine passes by, and, after all our Fatigue, got no better Fare than a *repas meigre*, (fasting Dinner) Herb Soup, four Bread, and worse Wine.

At ARIANA we left the great Road, and, instead of going through AMIENS, the Capital of PICARDY, came to the Village of Psoas, a much nearer Way to PARIS.

The next Morning we swept through GRANVILLE, one of the neatest Towns we had seen in PICARDY, and dined at a mean Village called OUDEILE. In the Evening  
we

we entered the City of BEAUVAIS. This is a fair and well fortified City in the Government of the Isle of France, stands on the River TERRAIN, forty-two Miles almost N. of PARIS, is a Bishoprick under the Archbishop of RHEIMS. This City is, like ABBEVILLE, full of Convents and Clergy. About half a League from the Gates of the Town, close to the Road, are three Men in Chains, and one exposed on a Wheel for a Murder.

With a piercing cold Morning we continued our Route, and dined miserably at the mean Town of BLAINVILLE, in the Evening lay at the poor Village of BEAUMONT SUR OYSE in the Isle of FRANCE. It stands on the River OYSE, twenty-four Miles N. of PARIS. At BEAUMONT we quitted the large Province of PICARDY, and entered the Isle of FRANCE. Certainly PICARDY gives Strangers an high Idea of Plenty in the French Dominions. Paint to yourself the pleasing Scenes of fine Views, of beautiful Vineyards, Hares and Partridges as numerous and as tame as Rabbits and Crows in England. Indeed they may well be so, as  
they

they are royal Game, and but few of the Noblesse have the Privilege of Hunting and Fowling: The Plebeians are debarred this Pleasure, and the Death of a single Hare or Partridge would undoubtedly merit the Gallies for three Years. Although the Land in general shews the Face of Plenty, yet Foreigners are soon convinced to the contrary; Poverty reigns throughout all the Province. The Houses are for the most Part miserably mean, and some of the Inns on a Par with those in Westphalia. 'Tis true you have Fowl in great Plenty, but then their Cooks and Cookery are eminently dirty: Every thing is roasted and boiled *ad infinitum*, as long as any Juice remain. Butter they have little, Oil and Bacon are substituted instead. Their Salt is of a dark grey Colour, and the Bread almost black. It ought highly to be recommended to all Strangers visiting France, always to carry about them a Knife, otherwise they will be often nonplus'd, and greatly mortified at their Meals. A Spoon and a Fork, bad Bread, sour Wine, and worse Attendance, is the common Apparatus in most of their Inns.

I have



I have heard that Travelling in France was extremely reasonable: Probably it might have been once so, but now, what with the great Thoroughfare and Intercourse of Strangers, but more commonly the Lavishness of the English, the honest Principles of the Innkeepers are entirely vitiated, and their dissembling Complaisance cloaks the most enormous Impositions, for your Dinner in a truly despicable manner seldom costs each Person less than two Shillings, and often double the Sum. Those who say that Travelling in France is more reasonable than in England are much mistaken; indeed, if trifling Ceremonies and affected Punctilios would satisfy the craving Appetite of an Englishman, then probably he would come cheap enough to PARIS. For my Part, the Moment I landed at CALAIS Poverty among these Caterpillars, was the most striking Object; and I am well satisfied, that an honest Farmer in England is far more happy in all Circumstances than the Noblesse in Picardy.

An English Epicure will undoubtedly be greatly disgusted at the Cookery a-la-mode,

mode, which he is most certain of finding in the French Inns, such as delicate Ragoos and Fricasseys, all in the polite *Gout* of *bein mortifié*; yet we ought earnestly to recommend to all Professors of Epicurism, that travelling teaches us wholesome Hardships, to endure any Weather as well as any Meat and Drink, to rise before AURORA, and come to the Inn late at Night, and to be sociable to Men we never saw before, and not to imagine the Land's End is the World's End. Indeed nothing cured ALCIBIADES's Pride so much as to see in a Chart shewed him by SOCRATES, that his Lands, which he so much esteemed, either appeared there not at all, or, at the most, but a small Spot in Comparison to the Globe. The immortal HOMER sings of ULYSSES,

——— *Multorum Hominum,  
Mores et Urbes.*

who was esteemed the wisest of all the GRECIANS, as he had travelled much, and had seen “the Customs and Cities of many Men.” St. AUGUSTINE, when he speaks of the great Advantages arising from Travelling,

ling, says, " That the World is a great Book, and none study this Book so much as a Traveller. They that never stir from home read only one Page of this Book;" like the dull Fellow in PLINY, who could never count more than five.

How absurd a Life is this! and yet we often find improving Geniuses without great Application, who strangely murder their Time, and delight in viewing no Court but the Tennis-Court, and shun all polite Assemblies and Balls, to the Company of Gamesters and Tennis-Balls. I must beg your Pardon, Sir, for so long a Digression, which I insensibly fell into, yet I would recommend to all my Countrymen this memorable Saying of SENECA, which ought to be wrote in Letters of Gold over the Door of every publick School:

*Imperitum est Animal Homo, et sine magna  
Experientia rerum, si circumscribatur  
Natalis Soli sui Fine.*

In the Morning we proceeded on our Journey, and dined at St. DENNIS, a small well-



well-built Town, about five Miles N. of Paris, stands in the Isle of France.

This Place is famous for a MONASTERY, the Monuments of their KINGS, and the Regalia of the Crown, which are constantly deposited here, and shewn gratis every Sunday\*.

About Six in the Evening we passed thro' the magnificent Arch of St. DENNIS, and were once more examined at the Custom-house in PARIS.

During our seven Day's Fatigue, we were often compelled to walk several Miles daily, to preserve a moderate Warmth in our Limbs; however, as our only Remedy was Patience, and Mirth, we endeavoured to pass away the Time as agreeably as possible, notwithstanding the Mortification of bad Weather, and worse Fare at the Inns; for indeed, the old Adage could never be more strictly true, than during our Journey from CALAIS to PARIS.

*Comes jucundus in via pro vehiculo est.*

\* Vide a minute Description of the Regalia in the account of St. Dennis's Church, forwards.

C

Between

Between CALAIS and PARIS, close to the Roads, are placed innumerable wooden Crof-fes, as a Memento that a Person was killed on that Spot, and that all good Catholicks may offer up a Prayer for the Soul of the Unfortunate. There are several other Cru-cifixes in ALTO-RELIEVO for private Devo-tions, beautifully painted, placed near the great Roads, or in the Streets of Towns, &c.

The Day after my Arrival in Paris, I went to the Custom-house to have my Baggage again examined, and to carry it away to the Hotel or Lodging-House; but this I could not obtain without a great deal of Trouble of getting Orders, Certificates, &c. Notwithstanding I had my Trunk examined and plumbed\* at CALAIS, and shewed my ITALICE PASSAVANA, to avoid reiterating that troublesome Searching for contraband Goods; yet, nevertheless I was obliged to comply with the same Discipline: the disagreeable long Attendance here reminded me of what SHAKESPEAR calls

“ The Insolence of Office.” HAMLET.

\* Is a little leaden Seal, which is tied near the Lock, and costs five Sols, or Two-pence Halfpenny English. Passavana is a Certificate of Examination.

CALAIS

CALAIS to PARIS  $32\frac{1}{2}$  Posts, or 182  
English Miles.

First Day.

	Posts.	Eng. M.
Calais ¶ to Marquise,	2	12
Marquise to Boulougne,	2	12

Second Day.

Boulougne to Sames,	$2\frac{1}{2}$ Leag.	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Sames to Montreuille,	2	12

Third Day.

Montreuille to Bernay,	4	24
Bernay to Abbeville, ¶	$2\frac{1}{2}$	15

Fourth Day.

Abbeville to Ariana,	3	18
Ariana to Pfoas	2	12

Fifth Day.

Pfoas to Oudeille,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	9
Oudeille to Beauvais	$1\frac{1}{2}$	9

Sixth Day.

Beauvais to Blainville,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	9
Blainville to Beaumont,	3	18

Seventh Day.

Beaumont to St. Dennis, ¶	3	19
St. Dennis to Paris,	1	6

¶ Posts Royal, for which you pay double.

Please, Sir, to accept of this my first  
Letter, and believe me to be, with  
Esteem, &c. A. R.





## L E T T E R II.

Description of PARIS; Course of the SEINE; Principal Bridges; RAVILLIAC the Regicide; Publick Fountains; and Hotels in general.

FEBRUARY 24, 1754

S I R,



N this and my future Letters, I shall endeavour to give you a particular Account of PARIS, &c. as far as ocular Proof, and their History can afford. The French take care, in the Margin of their Charts, greatly to esteem the Antiquity of PARIS: "*Cette Ville beaucoup plus Ancienne que JULES CÆSAR, qui vivoit 100 Ans avant JESUS CHRIST.*" This City is more antient than JULIUS CÆSAR, who lived an hundred Years before JESUS CHRIST." In this particular they do not exaggerate, as is most commonly their darling Foible. It is evident by History, that Paris is an antique City,

City, by CÆSAR's mentioning it in his Sixth Book of his Commentaries

*De Bello Gallico summum consilium in  
Lutetiam Parijorum transfudit.*

Formerly PARIS was called LUTETIA or LUCOTECE, from an illustrious King named LUCUS, or as some imagine, from the Latin Word LUTUM ; (*clay*) because the City was built upon Clay, or strong Earth, between two Arms of the Sea As a more convincing Proof of its Antiquity, we find in their History, that it was conquered by the ROMANS, forty-five Years before Christ, and possessed by them five hundred Years, without any Interruption from the GAULS.

PARIS is divided into twenty Quarters, and contains nine hundred and seventy Streets, fifty thousand Houses, fifty-two Parishes, eighty Chapels, three Abbies of Men, eight of Women, sixty-three Convents of Men, seventy of Women, fifty-seven Colleges, fifteen Seminaries, twenty six Hospitals, twelve Prisons, fifty-five Fountains to supply the City with Water, thirty Bridges great and small, twelve thousand Coaches, five thousand eight hundred Lanthorns, forty Squares,

five publick Libraries, six royal Palaces, eight publick Gardens, and about eight hundred thousand inhabitants.

It is built upon the River SEINE, in a perfect rotund Form, which they divide into City, Town, and University, of which the City is the smallest Part. The River makes a complete Section of the Town, &c. and sends off four Branches, which forms four Islands. The River is not navigable, excepting only for Flats which draw little Water. The Streets are but indifferent, yet are better paved in general than those of London; they are all the Winter Evenings illuminated with Tallow Candles in oblong Glass Lanthorns, suspended on a Cord in the Middle of the Streets; here, contrary to the Custom of my Countrymen, I must allow the Preference to the Oil-Lamps in London, which cast a much stronger Reflection; whereas these Lanthorns are hung up too high, and scarcely afford that Benefit which every one would expect, from the large Size of the Candles, and the Transparency of the thin Glass.

For the Security and Tranquillity of the City, there are continually on Duty eight hundred



hundred Guards, Horse and Foot, who patrol about the Streets in Parties, and secure all Disturbers of the Peace in the Chatelet or Prison : These Guards make no Noise like the London Watchmen, but walk quietly along, to attend on every Occasion.

At the Corner of every Street, the Name is cut on Stone, for the Information of Strangers, which is a great Conveniency to direct them through the City: in this Point London is deficient, which makes it intricate for Strangers to find their Way through so populous a City. At the End of every Street the Virgin Mary, with an Infant Jesus, is placed (either of Wood or Stone) which are decorated on particular Days, with a Crown of Silver on their Heads. The Entrance of the City on every Side is double-gated, at each Port are Searching-Officers, who examine all People who enter loaded, for Contraband Goods, which makes it dangerous for a single Pound of Tobacco or Snuff to be found about you, when you pass the Port.

### S E I N E,

Is a small narrow River, and divides the City by a complete Section ; it sends out several

veral Branches, which uniting forms three Islands, over which are placed the Bridges: On one of these Islands stands the NOTRE DAME, HOTEL DIEU, LES ENFANS TROUVEZ, &c. When the River quits PARIS towards St. CLOUD, it then becomes serpentine, and is extremely narrow, divides itself into several small Islands, as their Maps lay down forty-two between PARIS and POISSY, which, by its serpentine Course measures along the Water about thirty Miles, but by Land only twelve Miles. On the contrary side of the City towards CHARENTON it still continues serpentine; and by this Village, divides into two Branches, one of which is called MARNE River, and runs serpentine, forming small Islands, down to NOISEIERE: The other Arm still retains the Name of SEINE, and continues in the same direction to VILLE NEUVE ST. GEORGES, and again divides, which Branch passes by the Village of ESPINAY, &c. From POISSY to VILLE NEUVE ST. GEORGES, the French Charts mark fifty-six Islands, and from POISSY to NOISEIERE eighty-six: Thus the River runs through the neighbouring Provinces, forming innumerable small Islands.

The

The SEINE is not deep, and in many Places extremely narrow, and consequently not navigable ; upon which Account PARIS hath no maritime Trade, except only by their flat Vessels, in which they convey their Corn, Wood, &c. from the adjoining Provinces ; these Flats have no fixed Masts, but are entirely plain, and commonly sixty Yards from the Head to the Stern.

Among all the Contrivances which we import from FRANCE, one of the most necessary seems to be neglected : I mean their Corn-Mills, which float upon the Water ; so that which ever way the Current runs, the Mills can always work. I most heartily wish I had a mechanical Genius to convey a proper Delineation of this useful Machine : Let it suffice for me to mention, that the Building is between a Boat and a House, the latter of which is slated, and on the Sides are placed the Wheels, which the Stream turns round.

That Part of the SEINE which furrounds the City, is crouded with flat Boats, covered with Boards ; in these the Washer-Women beat and brush the Linen, for I may venture

to



to say, they are eminently slovenly in this particular Article, and are the greatest Friends to the Linen-Manufactory of any People in France.

I mentioned above, that PARIS was divided by the River, whose Branches uniting form several Islands ; in order to pass from one Quarter of the City to the other, there are built thirty Bridges, of which the principal are, the PONT NEUF, PONT ROYAL, PONT AU CHANGE, and PONT NOTRE DAME.

#### PONT NEUF, or

NEW BRIDGE, was built in the Reign of HENRY III. by JACQUES ANDROUET DU CERCEAU ; it is a strong heavy Building of eleven Arches, not extraordinarily turned, and is raised on each Side, in the Terrace-Manner, for the Conveniency of Foot-Passengers : This Terrace is lined with small Sheds, or Toy-shops, which are entirely removed every Festival. The Breadth of the Bridge is about thirty Yards, and one hundred and seventy Fathom in Length ; between the fifth and sixth Arch is erected on a Pedestal, the equestrian Statue of HENRY

IV. who was murdered in his Coach by RAVILLIAC \*: The principal Figure is the King on Horseback, standing on a marble Pedestal, supported by our Slaves in Chains

\* HENRY the IVth was formerly King of NAVARRE, and a Protestant. Upon the Murder of the preceding King, he was called to the Throne, as next in Blood; but his Religion caused him to be rejected by several of the Nobility; this was the Occasion of the Civil War: In the End, HENRY changed his Religion, to pacify the Nobles. The Day after the Queen was crowned, he went in his Coach to view the BASTILE, having there forty thousand Men, designed for a secret Expedition; but upon turning a narrow Street, was stopped by a Brewer's Cart, which embarrassed his Coach-Pole for a few Minutes; at this Interim, the Regicide stepped his Foot upon the Wheel, as the Nobles imagined, to present a Petition, having a Paper in his Hand, under which was concealed a Knife: being within the Reach of his Majesty he presented the Paper, and at the same Time stabbed him into the Breast. Immediately the King cried to his Nobles (who were with him in the Coach) "JE SUIS BLESSE!"---I am wounded! The Villain, without Hesitation, repeated the Stroke; and thus deprived France of its most illustrious Jewel. RAVILLIAC was directly seized by the Guards; and the unfortunate King died that Night, to the great Loss of all France, being one of the greatest Princes that ever swayed the Gallick Scepter.

RAVILLIAC, upon being tortured, confessed he had made a long Journey from the Country to Paris, and had hid himself twelve Months to execute this monstrous Deed. In a few Days the Parliament sentenced him to have his Flesh torn from his Bones by burning-hot Pincers, which he bore with unparalleled Patience, not in the least repining; and in his Extremity gloried he had given the fatal Blow so home, and done the Church and God so much Service. *See the Trial of this Wretch, printed in 8vo. for W. OWEN, Price 1 s.*

at

at the Angles ; round the Pedestal are several Inscriptions, expressing the most remarkable Transactions of his Reign, with beautiful Representations in *Bas-relief de Bronze*.

These were cast by FRANCHEVILLE, an able Sculptor : The Horse was made at FLORENCE by JEAN DE BOULOGNE, a Disciple of MICHAEL ANGELO, and made a Present by COSME the II<sup>d</sup>. Grand Duke of Tuscany, to Queen MARY DE MEDICIS, HENRY's Consort : The Figure of the King was made by another Sculptor, named PRE.

The Inscription to the Side of the Pont Neuf:

Quisquis hæc Leges, ita Legito,  
 Uti Optimo Regi precaberis,  
 Excercitum Fortem, populum Fidelem,  
 Imperium Securum,  
 Et Annos de Nostreis.  
 B. B. F.

Under this is the following :

ERRICO IIII.  
 Gallinarum Imperatori,  
 NAVAR. R.  
 LUDOVICUS XIII. Filius Ejus,

opus



opus incho. et intermissum pro  
Dignitate Pietatis, et Imperii plenius,  
et Amplius absolvit.

EMIN D. C. RICHELIVS ;  
Commune Votum Populi promovit,  
super illust. Viri de Bullion,  
BOUTILLIER, P. Ærarii F, faciendum,  
Curaverunt.

M. D. D. XXXV.

On the left Side, under the Bass-Relief, re-  
presenting the Battle of ARQUES, which  
was gained by HENRY IV.

Genio Gallinarum S. et invictissimo R.  
Qui ARQUECENSI prælio Magnas,  
Conjuratorum copias parva,  
Manu fudit.

Under the Bass-Relief for the Victory of  
YVRY :

VICTORI TRIUMPHATORI FERETRIO,  
Perduelles ad Evariacum Cæsi,  
Malis Vicinis indignantibus,  
et Faventibus,

CLEMENTISS. IMPER.

Hispano Duci, Opima Reliquit.

The

The Inscription on the Side facing the River,  
occasioned by his triumphal Entry into  
PARIS.

N. M. REGIS,  
Rerum Humanarum Optimi  
Qui sine Cæde, Urbem ingressus Vindicata Rebellione,  
EXTINCTIS FACTIONIBUS,  
Gallias optata, Pace composuit.

The taking of AMIENS from the Spaniards.

AMBIANUM HISPANORUM FRAUDE,  
Intercepta Errici M. Virtute  
Asserta,

LUDOVICUS XIII M. P. F.

Iisdem ab Hostibus sæpius Fraude,  
ac Scelere Tentatus,  
Semper Justitia, et Fortitudine,  
Superior fuit.

For taking MONTMELIAN in SAVOY.

MONS

Omnibus ante se Ducibus, Regibusque  
Frustra Petitus,  
Errici M. felicitate, sub Imperium  
Redactus.

Ad Æternam Securitatem, ac Gloriam,  
GALLICI NOMINIS.

The

The two following Inscriptions are under the Bass-Relief, on the right Side :

LUDOVICUS XIII IP. F. F.  
Imperii, Virtutis, et Fortunæ  
Obsequentis.  
Hæres I. L. D. D. RICHELIVS C.  
Vir supra titulos et Confilia  
Omnium ;  
Retro principium, opus absolvendum,  
Censuit.  
N. N. I. I. V. V. De Bullion et  
Bouthillier,  
S. A. P. Dignitati, et regno pares,  
Ære, Ingenio, Cura difficillimis  
Temporibus P. P.

On the lower Part of the Bridge stands the Fountain of SAMARITAN. (*Vide the Description forwards.*)

LE PONT ROYAL, or,  
ROYAL BRIDGE, was built opposite the LOUVRE, to add to its Grandeur ; contains two Terrace-Elevations, as the PONT NEUF : It is entirely of plain Stone, without any Ornaments, and has eleven Arches.



LE PONT AU CHANGE is situated towards the Notre Dame : This is built after the Manner of LONDON-BRIDGE, with Houses ranged on each Side. At the End of this Bridge stands the statues of LOUIS XIII and ANN DE AUTRICHE, all in Brass : Under the King on a Pedestal is this Inscription :

Ce pont a été commencé le 19 de Septembre 1639, du glorieux règne de LOUIS LE JUSTE, et achevé le 2d d'Octobre 1647, regnant LOUIS XIV. Sous l'heureuse Règence de la REINE ANNE D'AUTRICHE sa MERE.

PONT NOTRE DAME, PONT ST. MICHEL, PONT L'HOTEL DIEU, &c. are scarce worth mentioning ; nor indeed, are any of the Bridges about PARIS, equal to that delightful Edifice of Westminster.

### FOUNTAINS,

Are in Number fifty-five, which supplies the City with Water, having no Water-Machines as in London ; the principal of which is the QUEEN'S FOUNTAIN in GRENILLE-STREET, which is built of Free-Stone, and adorned with Marble Statues : The second is the SAMARITAN, which stands on the PONT NEUF ; this is a neat small Piece of Building, and ornamented with two Statues, ,

a Chime of Bells and some Water-Works, which are agreeable to the Eye. The remaining fifty-three Fountains, or rather Wells, are dispersed about the City, at several Quarters: To mention their Number, I think, is paying them sufficient Honour; as their Architecture, for the most Part, are not elegant, being only small round Buildings covered with Wire, or else dead Stone Walls, in which are placed Brass Pipes, from whence the Water flows.

#### HOTELS in general.

In regard to the prevailing Taste in their building of Houses (I mean those who belong to the Nobility) it may suffice to say, that the grandest have large dead Walls before them; so that a compleat View of the House is not seen without entering the Court-Yard. The Houses in general about PARIS are very high, sometimes running up to seven or eight Stories, are mostly white Stone, or plaistered over with a white Composition which greatly resembles Stone; the Windows are small and the glazing Part not in the least elegant. Over the Gateway are placed their Names in  
D                      Marble,

Marble, as HOTEL DE SAXE, &c. The Entrance is generally kept by a Swiss in a variegated Dress, with a Sash over his Shoulders tassell'd with Silver, who gives his Master an Air of Grandeur and Magnificence.

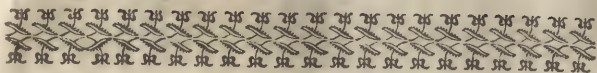
There are but few of the Houses in PARIS worth a Stranger's Curiosity; I can only recommend the HOTELS SOUBISE, CONTI, BOURBON, &c. the latter of which is in the Italian Taste, and the grand Gate adorned with fine Pillars of the Ionic Order,

My Landlord just comes to tell me, 'tis Time to send my Letter to the Post-House; therefore I can only remind you of the Difficulties you have laid me under; if you imagine this Letter too prolix or trivial, you must thank yourself, as you required a minute Account of the descriptive Part; therefore I freely submit all my Tautologies to your Candour.

A. R.

L E T-








## L E T T E R III.

Description of the Palaces in PARIS,  
public Gardens, and the Manner of  
executing a Criminal on the Wheel.

MARCH 26, 1754.

S I R,

 Shall now proceed to describe the  
 Palaces in PARIS, as they appear  
 to the Eye of a Stranger no con-  
 siderable Connoisseur in Architecture. In  
 these Descriptions I shall entirely lay aside the  
 lavish Accounts of the French, who never for-  
 get to embellish the Grandeur of their King,  
 by Narrations of improbable, and even ro-  
 mantic Events, which they imagine a Fo-  
 reigner will swallow down as glibly as a Su-  
 gar Plumb: however, it is sometimes highly  
 necessary to hear them advance without Con-  
 tradiction, in order to satisfy your own Cu-  
 riosity. When they mention the LOUVRE  
 it is with the greatest Admiration, and al-

ways conclude, that the Building never was equalled in Europe, nor can be excelled: Upon Examination you will soon see through their false Glosses and Colourings; and that the grand Monarch, so far from perpetuating its Name for Ages, by the Immensity and Solidity of the Structure, will soon perceive (without more effectual Care is taken to repair it, than has been for many Years past) its Name will scarce exist half a Century longer: —*Mors etiam Saxis, nominibusque Venit.*—

### L O U V R E.

This is a royal Palace, designed originally for the ordinary Residence of the royal Family,—the Pride of the Parisians, and the Admiration of Foreigners; is situated on the Banks of the SEINE in the FOUBOURG ST. HONORE. As the Old and New LOUVRE, and the Palace of the THUILLERIE are joined all together, or rather a Continuation of the same Pile, Strangers are apt to confound the several Palaces under one Name, when in Reality they are separate Palaces, and were erected at different Periods of Time, and as such I shall consider them.

The

The Frontispiece belonging to the LOUVRE is the grand Gallery which faces the River, and is by a moderate Computation near a Quarter of a Mile in Length, and has 124 Windows in a direct Line.

In this Gallery are kept a most curious Representation of all the fortified Places in Europe, whose Composition are Clay, all in ALTO-RELIEVO; these were made by LOUIS XIV. before he entered into the War with the Allies, by which Means he was able to judge of their Strength, and to regulate his military Operations accordingly. The Pilasters belonging to this Gallery are elegant; one of which forms the Letter H, indicating that HENRY was the Founder of that Part in 1596: But their History mentions CHARLES IX. as the original Founder of the LOUVRE.

The grand and principal Part of the LOUVRE, is on the East Side of ST. GERMAIN l'AUXTERROIS, and is ornamented with exceeding fine Corinthian Pillars: this is the Part which is precisely called the LOUVRE, and consists of two Buildings, which form an



Angle interiorly. The lower Part near the PONT NEUF, commonly stiled the OLD LOUVRE, is nothing extraordinary and scarcely worth mentioning; although the most magnificent Part was began by LOUIS XIV. and designed to exceed, in point of Architecture, all the royal Palaces in Europe; yet to this Day it is not a quarter finished: The long Gallery is most strangely neglected, and converted into Pedlars Sheds, Print Stalls, and Stables. Two Thirds of this immense Pile is not roofed, nor ever was; and we may say, that for want of Repairs, the largest Edifice in Europe is now in a perfect State of Decay; and in all Probability will long lie in this ruinous Condition, as the present royal Family have no great *Goût* to reside in PARIS, or perhaps from another Motive; for to compleat this Edifice as its Merit demands, according to the original Plan, would require an immense Sum, and probably more than can be spared.

SHAKESPEAR might probably have in View the Vanity of some particular Person, for erecting Structures, which they expected to endure ad infinitum, in order to perpetuate their

their Memory : But this poetical Prophecy in the TEMPEST, convinces us of the Uncertainty of all sublunary Beings, and the certain Diffipation which TIME will produce in the gay World.

*The cloud-capt Towers, the gorgeous Palaces,  
The solemn Temples, the great Globe itself,  
Yea all which it inherits, shall dissolve,  
And like the baseless Fabric of a Vision,  
Leave not a Wreck behind.*

SH. TEMPEST.

As the Palace of the THUILLERIES joins one Part of the LOUVRE, it may be considered under the general Appellation of the LOUVRE; but as they have distinct Names, I shall describe this as such. The grand Front is towards the Gardens, which was built by CATH. de MEDICIS in 1564, and was again augmented, and ornamented 1664: This Front is composed of five Pavillions, which are in the IONIC, CORINTHIAN, and ATTIC Taste, being very regular and beautiful, and is the only Part of all this large Building which is habitable.

Notwithstanding the common Notions of the Parisians, of it being the most magnificent Edifice in Europe, it greatly falls short of a Foreigner's Expectation : But if we must admire the LOUVRE of the grand Monarch out of mere *Politesse*, we can only admire it for the Immenfity of the Pile, and the egregious Faults it is full of; more especially in regard to the strict Rules in point of proportional Architecture, which a moderate Connoisseur can easily discover.

The only Garden belonging to this Palace, is that of the THUILLERIE (vide the Description forwards).

### Le PALAIS d'ORLEANS,

Commonly called the LUXEMBERG, is the second royal Palace in PARIS, situated in the FAUBOURG ST. GERMAIN : This is a beautiful and regular Edifice, with a fine Cupola in the Front; the Foundress was queen MARY de MEDICIS, Relict of HENRY IV. The whole is composed in the TUSCAN and DORICK Orders, having a just Symmetry through



through the whole Structure. At the Entrance is a grand Court, and on each Side a long Gallery of fine Paintings, which are shewn publickly during the Summer Season ; in these Galleries are several fine Marble Tables inlaid in the mosaic Taste, representing a thousand different Figures, and as great a variety of Colours. This Art was brought from GREECE into ITALY in the earliest Ages : VITRUVIUS, who lived in the Age of AUGUSTUS, takes a particular Notice of the inlaid Marble,

*Pavimenta scētilie, Opera musæa, et Musiva.*

and a little lower says,

*Tessellatum, et Vermiculatum opus.*

As most of these Tables are antique, it is a sufficient Indication of the Antients great Skill in the Sciences. In the opposite Gallery is the symbolical History of the royal Foundress, MARY de MEDICIS, representing her History from her Birth to her Death, each Picture being ten Feet in Height, and painted by that great Artist, PETER PAUL RUBENS. There are many Hundreds of fine Paintings  
which

which merit the greatest Encomiums, but for Brevity shall omit giving a minute Description, being greatly superior to my Capacity; it may suffice for me to mention, that the principal Pictures claim VANDYCK, RAPHAEL, JUVENET and LE BRUN, for their Authors. At your Entrance into these Galleries, a Swiss presents you a Book, by which Means you have an Explanation of each Piece, its Painter, &c. For this Courtesy you make the Swiss a small Present. (Vide Account of the Gardens forwards.)

### P A L A I S R O Y A L,

Is in St. Honorius's Street; it was built by Cardinal RICHLIEU in 1636, in the IONIC and CORINTHIAN Order: It is at present in the Possession of the first Prince of the Blood (duke of Orleans); the House is no where to be seen to Advantage, unless from the Gardens; the long Gallery contains one of the most curious Collections of Pictures and Medals of any in France, whose Beauties, I may truly say, are amazing; and nothing but an actual View can convey an adequate Idea: The Designs of RAPHAEL, REIMBRANS,  
 JU-

JUVENET, and LE BRUN.—The Paintings of RUBENS, STELLA, POUSSIN, VOUET, and GERARDINI, cannot have too much Honour paid them by any Pen: Such Elegance in the Designs, such exquisite Colourings, makes the Spectator doubt, whether Art or Nature is the Object; and in many Pieces, the actual Touch can only convince you, so very agreeable is the *Deceptio visus*. (Vide the Gardens forward.)

# L'HOTEL DE VILLE, or,

TOWN-HOUSE of PARIS. This is a large Edifice of no extraordinary Beauty; therefore I shall wave the Description. On the Front is an equestrian Statue of HENRY IV. Before the House is a large Square called LA GREVE, where the People assemble to rejoice on their Festivals, but more properly stiled the GRAVE, from the Executions of Criminals, always performed in this Square.

The barbarous Custom of putting Malefactors to Death, by breaking all their Bones, and exposing them to rot on the Wheel, is practised particularly in France.

I had lately the melancholy Fortune to see an Irish Gentleman (in the French Service) undergo this ignominious Death, for murdering his intimate Friend and Neighbour, a Member of the Parliament at Bourdeaux.

He was brought in a Cart attended by the City Guards, and assisted by a Priest of the SORBONNE (whose Place it is to assist these Criminals); in the Middle of the Square was erected a Scaffold about 9 Feet in Height, on this was fixed a wooden Cross, to which the unfortunate Criminal was strongly tied with Cords; in several Parts of this Cross were Hollows, on which the Executioner strikes with a large Bar of Iron in order to break the Bones: on one Corner of the Scaffold was fixed a small Wheel, about three Quarters of a Yard in Diameter; after he had his Bones broken on the Cross, he was taken from thence and truss'd up like a Fowl, and then placed upon the Wheel with Cords until he expired.

Mr. ROUSTAN, the unhappy Criminal, was an Officer in Count Saxe's Regiment, was a genteel tall Man about twenty-two Years of Age;



Age; he appeared on the Scaffold with an undaunted Countenance, immediately stripped off his Cloaths, lay upon the Cross, and even assisted the Executioner in fixing the Cords; and in a few Minutes he received the fatal Shocks unmoveable, without shewing the least Sense of Pain. Though it was the Winter Season, and intensely cold, his Legs and Arms broken to Pieces, and twisted round his Body, besides being exposed naked to a piercing Air, yet nothing induced him to repine: I may truly say, he bore twelve several Blows, and twelve Bones broke (at least) with an heroic Courage, unmoveable, all the Torments human Nature could possibly sustain.

### L'ABBAYE ROYALE, ST. GERMAINS DES PREZ.

This is thought to be the most antient Abbey in Europe, was built by king CHILDEBERT in the Year 543. This Abbey was formerly called SAINTE CROIX, afterwards SAINT VINCENT, but at present bears that of GERMAINS, from a Bishop of PARIS of that Name, whose Relicts are exposed to View every 28th Day of May.

This

This Building, for its Antiquity and curious antique Monuments, is much admired, but cannot stand the Test of the modern Architects. Near the Abbey is a large covered Building, in which is held a droll Fair during Lent; the Commodities are usually Toys and Ribbons, &c. the Diversions Comedies, Rope-dancing, and Asses and Lyons beat with Dogs. All Foreigners who enter this Place out of Curiosity, are glad to quit it as soon as they can; for the Mademoiselles, who are commonly the Shop-keepers, teize every Person to buy some Trinkets, which if he does, 'tis great odds but he pays three Times the Value: though this Fair, to outward Appearance is carried on with Decorum by their innocent Diversions, and vending of Ribbons, Sword-knots, &c. yet as soon as the Evening begins, the Fair is illuminated, the People crowd in from all Quarters, and the Night is usually compleated in Revels, by such Gentlemen who admire the Company *Tête à Tête* of the pretty Shop-keepers.

*Amor vincit omnia.*

## L E P A L A I S, or

MERCHANTS PALACE, is situated near the PONT NEUF ; was began to be built in the Reign of PEPIN LE BREF, the Father of the great CHARLEMAGNE, and finished under PHILIP LE BELL in 1313. This is a large Building in the Dorick Order, and was antiently the Residence of the Kings of France ; the interior Part is lofty, and divided into several Halls, in which the Court of Aids, Chamber of Requests, Chamber of Accounts, &c. usually sit : but more particularly it ought to be esteemed, for being the Seat of that august Assembly the PARLIAMENT of PARIS, who were sent into Exile by the especial Command of the King, for disobeying his Orders in regard to the Contest with the Clergy, about the Bull Unigenitus. In this Exile they remained eighteen Months, and then were recalled with Honour, having distinguished themselves by Fortitude, Wisdom, and Patriotism, under an arbitrary Prince, to their immortal Glory.

All

All round the Halls are several Shops of Merchants, such as Bookfellers, Milliners, and Toy-Men, &c. in the same Manner as Westminster-Hall, excepting that this extensive Building has a hundred Times as many of these petty Merchants (as they stile themselves.)

Adjoining is the Saint-Chapel, so called by ST. LOUIS (the ninth King of France) who purchased, at an immense Sum, several Relicts of Saints, &c. which are now kept in this holy Chapel. (Vide the Account of them forwards, when I treat of their Churches and Antiquities).

## PUBLIC GARDENS in PARIS.

### LES THUILLERIES.

This claims the first Notice of all the public Gardens about this City; it is situated immediately before the Thuillerie Palace; the Extent is about thirty English statute Acres, and for its Size is most excellently laid out. On each Side is a long lofty Terrace, the length of the Garden, and well gravelled, as are all the Walks; the middle Part is rather



a thick Wood with Alleys between, which is a great Conveniency to preserve the Visitors from the scorching Beams of the Sun during the Summer-season, which is then extremely hot. The Parterre contains three Pieces of Water, which are ornamented with fine Marble Statues, such as the Rape of Proserpine, Ascanius carrying Æneas, the Rape of Lucretia, Hannibal, and Scipio, with the Seasons on each Side, and four large Groups in the upper Parterre in white Marble, as an Emblem of the four principal Rivers in Europe.

The grand Walk forms a most beautiful Visto, which terminates in a Wood called the Elysian Fields, or more commonly known by the Name LA COURS DE LA REINE (Queen's Course). This is the usual Place where the Citizens celebrate their Festivals with the Bat and Ball, a Diversion which is much used here. All the Gates of the Garden are guarded by the Swiss Guards, to preserve Order and Decorum, and to keep out Footmen, Valets, and other such like *Cannaille*. This Garden is much frequented every Evening by the best Company; its first

E

Foun-

Foundress was Queen CATHERINE DE MEDICIS, but was principally augmented and ornamented by Louis XIV.

### GARDEN of the LUXEMBOURG PALACE,

Is another public Garden, and much frequented by Company in the Morning, being more agreeable and rural than the Thuilleries; its Situation is adjoining to the Palace, and has one remarkable fine Gravel Walk; but when the Beams of Sol prevail, the Company usually retire to the cool Retreat under the shady Trees: There is only one Piece of Water in this Garden, all which is greatly neglected. The Swiss guard the Gates, and have the same Regulations as at the former royal Garden.

### GARDENS of the PALAIS ROYAL.

These are belonging to the Palace of the first Prince of the Blood (duke of Orleans) and are publick; in point of Grandeur they are superior to the Luxembourg, and inferior to the Thuilleries, are much more pleasant than elegant, and have several good Gravel Walks, with a small Fountain in the Middle:  
This

This Garden is the principal one, where the Nobility walk in the Evenings, and is more frequented by the Beau-monde than either of the former.

### JARDIN ROYAL DES PLANTS.

The ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDEN is a compleat rural Garden, and not so much frequented, although always public, as the other Gardens. It is situated at the Extremity of PARIS, and by the Liberality of the King, their great Protector, and Encourager of Arts and Sciences, this Garden is entirely set apart for the learned Studies: it is justly esteemed the most compleat Botanical Garden in Europe, containing a variety of Exotics not to be found in other Nurseries. At one Side of the Garden is a large Amphitheatre, in which are given gratis, compleat Courses of Lectures in Chymistry, Botany, Pharmacy, Anatomy, Surgery, and the Operations and Bandages. Each of these learned Branches, are provided with two Professors ( a Lecturer and Demonstrator) who are maintained by the Bounty of the King; and, to their Honour, I ought to mention the infinite Pains Messieurs FAREIN and MERTRUDE take to instruct the Pupils,

who usually attend daily, to the Number of fifteen hundred from different Nations. In fine, we may esteem PARIS as one of the best and cheapest Schools in Europe for Students to come to ; for if they can furnish themselves with the common Necessaries, the King gives them all Branches of Literature gratis.

On the left Side of the Entrance into the Garden, there is a spiral Mount of Fir Trees, from whence you have a pretty good Prospect of PARIS.

On the right Hand is kept the King's Cabinet of Curiosities, to visit which a Ticket is required, though Strangers are always welcome without one. The Cabinet consists of three Rooms ; in the first is a most curious Collection of all Kinds of Skeletons, a compleat Set of Fœtus's, from the most minute Embrio to the Period of nine Months, a fine Collection of Shells and Coral, and all the new Inventions in Machinery.

The second Room is filled with a large Quantity of Indian Stones, Minerals, and Chrystal.



In the third Apartment is a fine Collection of Insects, Animals anatomically prepared, variety of Fishes in Spirits, Serpents from the smallest Size to six Yards in Length, Skeletons of Birds, a new invented brazen Sphere; and lastly, a large Collection of antique Stones, as Agat, Onyx, Emerald, Topaz, &c.

Being now upon a pleasing Subject, I must beg Leave to continue the Digression, since it would be almost unpardonable to omit a small Account of another curious Cabinet belonging to one of the Nobility, which he shews gratis every Sunday during the Summer Months: I mean Monsieur REMEAUR's Cabinet of natural and artificial Curiosities, which are universally allowed to be collected with the most critical Nicety, and at a great Expence, being an inexhaustible Fund of Entertainment to every Spectator.

This Collection consists of six Rooms; in the first, are all Kinds of Animals prepared as if alive; in the second, a beautiful Collection of foreign Birds preserved, as curious and natural in Death, as if they still breathed; in the third Chamber, all Kinds of Water Fowl

and Birds of Prey, preserved in the same Manner as the former; the fourth Room is full of Birds Nests and Eggs, from different Kingdoms.

In the fifth Apartment, a curious Collection of Insects, Minerals, Coral, and a Malayean Book; it consists of one hundred Pages of thin Wood, attached by a String; the Letters are cut on the Wood, and is supposed to be vastly antique.

In the sixth Room is a Collection of Fishes prepared, both wet and dry: Lastly, he shews you about one hundred Fowls, all hatched by the Heat of a Dunghill. I could not help particularly admiring the preserved Birds, which really look as if they were not deprived of Life, which indicates how far Art can inroach on Nature.

After this long Digression, I shall again return into my former Channel, and give a small Account of the Garden belonging to the ARSENAL. This is situated near the BASTILLE, and has several good Walks without any great Beauties, except a deep Fossé which covers one Part of it. These are all the public Gar-

dens of any Consequence in PARIS, which (if you please) you may fancy all your own Property, and walk in them as often as Inclination calls.

The variety of Subjects I have here treated of, has insensibly spun out this Letter to an immoderate Length; and Fancy and Sensibility plainly tells me, that your Patience and my tired Arm, call loudly for a *Quietus*.

Yours, &c. A. R.



## L E T T E R . IV.

Description of the public Hospitals,  
Churches, and Processions.

APRIL 15, 1754:

S I R,



S I have hitherto endeavoured to  
class all my Observations in as regular  
an Order as Things will permit,  
from so great a Diversity of Subjects, I shall  
still continue the same Plan, by describing the  
royal Hospitals.

## HOPITAL D'HOTEL DIEU.

The Hospital of the House of God, is the  
principal charity Hospital in PARIS; it is  
situated on one of the Islands between the  
NOTRE DAME and the Foundling Hospital,  
one of the Wings being on one Side of the  
River, and the other on the opposite Side  
They attribute the first Foundation of this  
Hospital to ST. LANDRY, the twenty-ninth  
Bishop



Bishop of PARIS, who lived in the Reign of CLOVIS in 660; but it has, since those Days, been considerably augmented and ornamented by ANTOINE DU PRAT, chancellor of France, who built another large Ward; afterwards by ST. LOUIS King of France, who augmented the Revenue; and HENRY IV. afterwards added another Ward; so that at present it contains fifty Wards, which are much crowded with Beds.

The Exterior of this large Building is not beautiful, on the contrary it is very disagreeable; but the Order and Oeconomy of the House is as commendable as the Plainness of the Edifice; a frugal Plenty of all things necessary, seems to reign in every Part of it, and an exact Order, even in the most trivial Things, is nicely observed. The French have a greater regard for Usefulness and Conveniency than external Magnificence, which I cannot but think is much more commendable, than expending large Sums in erecting Palaces instead of Hospitals; which Superfluities, if rightly applied, might cause a Fund for the Maintenance of double the Number of poor Objects.

At the upper End of the Chapel, there is continually in waiting a Priest, who receives and registers all Patients who present themselves, without any Objection either of Country or Religion. The Number of Sick in this Hospital is from three thousand to seven thousand, who are carefully attended by the religious Nuns of the Order of ST. AUSTIN, a most austere Order indeed, as they pass all their Days in a continual disagreeable Penance. These Nuns are cloathed in white (an Emblem of Innocence) and have their Hair concealed by a fine Linen Binder, their Heads and Shoulders are covered with a black Cloth Veil, and round the Waste is an Iron Chain, at which is suspended a Crucifix, Beads, &c.

Notwithstanding the Austerity and Disagreeableness of this religious Order, the young Girls are fond of entering into this strict Penance; and they tell you of the Dutcheß of NEMOURS (Mother of the Queen of Portugal) who, being tired of Grandeur and worldly Vanities, devoted the latter Part of her  
Life

Life to this Place, but at last took the Small-Pox, by giving Soup to the Sick, and died.

The greatest Fault in this Hospital, is the receiving too many Patients at a Time; for which Reason the Wards are crowded, which obliges them to lye from two to six in a Bed. Concerning the Customs of the Hospital, they have during the Lent, solemn Processions of all the Nuns and Clergy belonging to it, who chant a Benediction as they walk round the Wards: At this Time the Relicts of their Saints are exposed in the Chapel, which are attended by one of these holy Sisters; these Relicts are usually surrounded by Groups of the lower Class of People praying.

This is the first gratis Hospital in PARIS, where Pupils of every Nation attend all their Practice without the least Objections or Expence; the Hours of dressing the Patients are five o'Clock in the Morning and three in the Evening, at which time attend Students of every Country.

At the Entrance into ST. CHARLES's Ward, is this fine Inscription on black Marble and gilded Letters:

Qui

Qui que tu fois qui entre dans ce SAINT Lieu,  
tu n'y verras presque par tout que des Fruits  
de la CHARITE du grand POMPONE. La  
Brocard d'Or, et d'Argent, les Meubles  
précieux qui parerent autrefois sa Chambre,  
par une heureuse Metamorphose, servent  
maintenant aux Nécessitez des MALADES.

Cet Homme devin qui fut l'Ornement et les  
Delices de son Siecle, dans le Combat même  
de la Mort, a pensé au Soulagement des  
Affligez.

Le Sang de BELLIEVRE s'est montré dans  
toutes les Actions de sa Vie : la Gloire de ses  
Ambassades n'est que trop connue.

Il fut premier President, et Petit-fils de deux  
Chanceliers. Son Ame plus grand encore  
que sa Naissance et qua sa fortune fut un  
Abime de Sageffe.

La France ne porta jamais un Enfans plus  
digne d'elle. Tout la Terre dira ses ver-  
tus ; mais cet Salle parlera eternellement de  
sa



sa Pieté, et de l'Amour qu'il eut pour les  
PAUVRES.

The following Inscription is on the Fountain near the Statue of Æsculapius :

Qui fitis, huc tendas, defunt si Forte liquores,  
Progredere, Æternas diva paravit Aquas.

### L'HOPITAL DE LA CHARITE.

CHARITY HOSPITAL. This is the second great public Hospital, and the neatest I ever saw, having no more an offensive Smell than a private House. It is situated in the RUE ST. PERE, and was first established in 1602, with a considerable Revenue annexed to it by the King; the Exterior is an heavy dull Building, but the Interior is quite elegant; it is divided into five large Wards, in which are about two hundred neat Beds for the Patients; at the Extremity of each Ward there are Chapels, which are ornamented with fine Paintings. The long Ward is likewise full of fine Portraits of their Kings, Cardinals, and principal Surgeons, painted by LE BRUN and JUVENET. As the HOTEL DIEU is regulated by the Sisters of ST. AUSTIN, so likewise is this Hospital by the Friars of ST. JEAN DE DIEU,

DIEU, who officiate from the highest to the lowest : upon their festival Day, all the Wards are beautifully decorated with Tapestry. The Habit of these Friars is a black loose Vest, which is closed together about the Waste with a Cord ; their Heads are shaved close, except one small round Space is left, in Allusion to a Crown of Thorns, but in Winter they cover the Head with an Hood. This is the second Hospital where Students are admitted to see their Practice gratis ; the Hours of Dressing are eight o'Clock in the Morning and three in Evening. This Hospital, as well as the HOPITAL DIEU, are excellent chirurgical and anatomical Schools ; as you have always plenty of Subjects to dissect and perform the Operation, for which you only pay the Surgeon-Major five Louis d'Ors for the Season, who always instructs the Pupils every Morning, and directs them during the Operation.

#### HOPITAL general de la SALPETRIERE,

GENERAL HOSPITAL, is a small Distance from the City ; it is an elegant Edifice, ornamented with a fine Dome at the Top, and is surrounded by a deep Fossé. They receive all Kinds of Patients upon Application, such  
as

as Women with Child, Foundlings, Orphans, and Lunatics: The Wards are numerous and extensive, and have generally seven thousand People of all Sorts within the Walls. The Girls are educated in Needle Work, &c. and throughout all the Wards the pleasing Prospect of Industry is obvious.

This is likewise an anatomical School, and the Subjects are plentiful and reasonable; the Surgeon only requiring two Guineas for dissecting the whole Winter.

#### LES ENFANS TROUVEZ,

FOUNDLING HOSPITAL; is situated close to the HOTEL DIEU as an Appendix to it; the Exterior is plain and neat, all built of white Stone: In March 1754, they had four thousand Foundlings out at nurse, and near a thousand in the House: No wonder indeed they are so much crowded, as all Children are received without question, except only in regard to Baptism. The general Reception of Infants without Exceptions into the SALPETRIERE, and this Hospital, undoubtedly prevents Murders, which are never heard of here among the younger Sort.

The

The interior Part is exceeding neat and clean ; and the Lay-Sisters, who attend the Foundlings, are modestly attired in black Gowns and white Veils, like the out-going Nuns ; the Foundlings are cloathed in Black, white Aprons and Bibs, with a neat fly Cap, which makes them look decent.

#### HOPITAL DES INVALIDES.

HOSPITAL of INVALIDES, is a royal Foundation as well as all the former, and designed for the same Use as Greenwich (for superannuated and disabled Soldiers) but in point of Architecture it is greatly inferior to it : however, it is the best worth viewing of any Building in or about PARIS. Before the outward Gate is a pleasant Avenue of Trees upon the Banks of the SEINE, and between the first and second Gate is a fine Court, in which are placed the Cannon : at the second Gate is a Stone Wolf highly expressive ; this Gate is lofty, and adorned with Basso-Relievos, alluding to LOUIS XIV, under which is this Inscription :

LUDO-



## LUDOVICUS MAGNUS

Militibus Regali Munificentia in Perpetuum,  
Providens has Ædes posuit.

An. M. D. C. L. XXV.

Passing through this Gate you enter a fine large Square, on each Side of which is a double Height of Galleries; below are eight large Wards where the Invalides dine; these Places are ornamented with Paintings, representing the Wars of LOUIS XIV. At the upper End on the left Side is the Infirmary; the Interior of which is vastly neat, and laid out in the Form of a Cross, where is erected a grand Altar. The Chapel is on the right Side, covered with a most beautiful Dome; the gilded Rostrum, Organs, and Altar are magnificent: This is covered with a grand gilded Canopy, supported by four Angels, who stand on four serpentine Pillars forty Feet high, all richly gilded. Behind the grand Altar are six different Altars, ornamented with fine Paintings and Statues of Saints in full Proportion, such as ST. PAUL, JEROME, EUSTACE, MONIFICA, AUGUSTINE, ALIPE, SATYRE, AMBROISE, MARCELINE, GREGOIRE, SIL-  
F VIE,

VIE, and EMILIENE, with their Lives historically painted round each Cupola in Fresco; the Floor is vastly curious, being all Marble inlaid in the Mosaic Taste.

This is another anatomical School; by giving four Guineas, you are plentifully provided with Subjects, and dissect one Year.

On Corpus Christi Day every Church in PARIS makes a grand Procession, at which Time the Host is exposed all over the City: It would be endless to recite all these Processions; therefore, for Brevity, shall only take Notice of those of the Chapel of the Invalides and ST. SULPICE, which will give you a perfect Idea of the rest; yet it may not be amiss to premise, that on this Day, all the Streets in PARIS are lined with Tapestry; but more particularly, the Front of this Hospital was greatly ornamented with fine Tapestry, representing the Battles, Sieges, and remarkable Transactions of LOUIS XIV. such as his Interview with the King of Spain, his Marriage with the Infanta, Reception of the Pope's Legate, &c. &c. all in full Proportion, and highly expressive. The Procession marched  
round

round the Court Yard in the following Order.

1. One hundred and fifty Invalides (each carrying a Wax Taper) chanting.

2. Forty Boys cloathed in white Lawn and adorned with Silver Sashes, and a Chaplet of Flowers on their Head ; each of these Boys had a Basket of Flowers, which they strewed before the Host. Others carried Silver Vessels with Incense, who, at Signals given, incensed the Host.

3. Thirty Priests sumptuously habited in Purple and Gold ; these Priests, as well as the Procession, chanted a Benediction as they walked, at which Time the Drums, Trumpets, and Fiddles, made agreeable Music.

4. The Host carried on a Gold Cross by a Priest richly habited, over which was a Canopy of scarlet Velvet and Gold, supported by four Pillars of Silver, which was carried by four invalide Colonels. In this manner they walked to the outward Court, where was erected a grand Altar, richly ornamented with Silver Candlesticks, &c. Here they made a Stand

to sing an Hymn; after which all the Cannon were discharged, and the whole Procession retired to the Chapel, and concluded with high Mass.

I forbear to say much on the sumptuous Apparel of the Priests, lest you should imagine I exaggerate; but I assure you, their rich Robes would be a great Ornament to a coronation Procession, being vastly superior to what my Imagination can possibly paint.

The only Hospital which remains to be taken notice of, is that called the BECETRE Hospital, which lies about three Miles from PARIS: It is a large Building, but not elegant; it serves, in a double Capacity, as an Hospital and a State-Prison, more especially to such who are condemned to a perpetual Imprisonment. This is another anatomical School, with Plenty of Subjects, being no more than six Livres (five and three-pence English) for each Cadaver.

Here I think I may rest the Description of Hospitals, as the remaining twenty are not worth the Curiosity of a Stranger: Nor  
indeed



indeed is the Exterior of any of the above described, equal to several in and about London; yet, upon the whole (if I must declare my Sentiment) I think the London Hospitals are greatly inferior to them in the principal Article; I mean merely as a Charity, designed originally for Hospitality and Conveniency only, without the unnecessary Parade of a magnificent Frontispiece, and the interior Management, not at all answerable to what your Idea might conceive by viewing a superb Edifice.

### N O T R E D A M E, or

OUR LADY'S Church, is the Metropolitan of Paris, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary: It is said to be built by the English when they conquered France, but this I am inclined to believe is a Mistake; for, upon having this Account so strongly asserted by the English Residents, I took some Pains to examine their Ecclesiastical History, which convinced me to the contrary. It may not be unnecessary to recommend this History, to all such opiated People, where they will soon find that ST. DENNIS (patron of France) who lived in the first Ages, was the original Founder: It was after-

wards rebuilt in the Reign of CHILDEBERT in 522, and then called NOTRE DAME. In the Reign of ROBERT the PIOUS, it was again rebuilt and made spacious; in the succeeding reigns of HENRY I. PHILIP I. LOUIS le GROS, and LOUIS le JEUNE, it was greatly neglected, and not compleatly finished until the Reign of PHILIP AUGUSTUS; so that, if we may credit their Legends, it is evident, it was built before the English had any footing in France. The Building is in the Gothic Taste, and terminates in two Towers over the grand Entrance: Round the Exterior of this Front there are variety of Stone Statues, representing twenty-eight Kings of France, the last of whom is PHILIP AUGUSTUS; but these are without Order or Beauty. The first Thing that strikes you at the Entrance, is a most enormous large Stone Statue of ST. CHRISTOPHER; but, as the Attitude is unnatural, it is not worth a second Notice; the Isles are narrow and not bold: At the upper End rides PHILIP le BEL on Horseback, armed and caparisoned according to the Age he lived in; this Figure is made of Wood in full Proportion, and the Horse covered with a proper Skin. Before the Choir-Gates are two Altars, dedicated

dedicated to the VIRGIN and ST. DENNIS, whose Effegies are there erected in fine Italian Marble; these Altars are adorned with several Silver Lamps, presented by ANN of Austria. The Choir is beautiful, and ornamented with a grand Altar in Alto-Relievo, representing the Crucifixion, in white Marble; on each Side the Altar, is LOUIS XIII. and LOUIS XIVth's Statues, in a cumbent Attitude, presenting their Crowns to the Altar. The Copper-Statues, and fine Wainscotting in Bas-Relief within the Choir, and its Iron Gates, are all worth Notice. Round the Isles are several small Chapels, forty-seven in Number, belonging to the Nobility: In one of these Chapels, is the Monument of RENEE du BEC-CREPIN, a Woman of great Parts, insomuch that she had the Title of Ambassadress extraordinary about Affairs of Consequence at the Court of Poland.

The Isles of this Church are lined with large historical Scripture-Paintings, which Pieces are judged by Connoisseurs to be exceeding well executed.

#### L'EGLISE de ST. SULPICE.

ST. SULPICIUS's CHURCH, is a modern Piece of Architecture, and the grandest in

PARIS. It was begun in 1646 ; but Queen ANN of AUSTRIA judging it too little, rebuilt it in 1655 : Though this Edifice was begun so many Years ago, it is yet very far from being perfected, the general Complaint here, “ Want “ of Money,” has greatly delayed it : Yet now, in order to finish it according to their grand Plan, the Government has granted the Curate a Permission to raise Money, by way of Lottery, every Month ; each Ticket costs a Livre, and the highest Prize is twenty thousand Livres. When the Church is entirely compleated, it will be an agreeable Building, and is then to terminate with two Towers, with the King and Queen’s Statue at the Top. As this Edifice is confined at present between narrow Streets, it is no where to be seen with Advantage, tho’ there is some Talk of leveling all the Houses about it, to make an open Square, which, if this Design is executed, will greatly add to its Grandeur : The Exterior is entirely of the Corinthian Order, and vastly lofty. The Interior is spacious and grand, and ornamented with a most magnificent Altar and Canopy ; round the Isles are several Chapels, after the prevailing Taste in regard to their Churches :



Churches : This Church alone (it is said) has an hundred Priests belonging to it.

I shall now give you the Proceſſion of ST. SULPICIUS on Corpus Chriſti Day ; and by it you may have an Idea of the Proceſſions of the other Churches, which I ſhall omit, to avoid Tautologies.

1. Went an hundred Citizens, each carrying a Wax Taper burning ; theſe marched two and two before a Silver Croſs ſixteen Feet in Height. 2. Two hundred Women with burning Tapers, before a large ſilver Verge, on which was an embroidered Satin, with the word MARIA in Gold Letters. 3. Several Kettle Drums and Trumpets. 4. Forty Priests in white Surplices. 5. Twenty Nuns in their Habits, before a large Silver Croſs. 6. One hundred Citizens in black, with Tapers. 7. Three embroidered Velvet Standards with Silver Staves, on each of which was the Representation of a Saint. 8. One hundred Citizens in black, with Tapers, before a Croſs, on which was embroidered the Holy Ghoſt, according to the Emblem. 9. Fifty Men in black with Tapers, before a Silver Croſs ſixteen

teen Feet high and gilded. 10. Kettle Drums and the Swiss Guards. 11. Sixty of the Clergy in white Surplices. 12. Two hundred Priests in Satin, Purple, and Gold, all most sumptuously habited. 13. Forty Boys in Surplices and Satin Girdles, with embroidered Sashes; these Boys carried small Baskets of Flowers, which they strewed before the Host. 14. Forty Boys, with Silver Vessels and Incense burning. 15. Several Kettle Drums and other Music, cloathed in Blue and Silver. 16. Two Bishops in purple. 17. The Host, under a most stately Canopy of crimson Velvet and Gold Lace. 18. Two hundred Citizens in black, with Tapers. The Rear of this Procession was closed by the City Guards. During their March the whole Company chanted a Benediction, *Beati pauperes spiritu*; for whenever the Host appeared in Sight, all the Spectators fell upon their Knees until it passed by.

The Churches in PARIS are so numerous, that it would be endless to describe minutely their various Beauties; such as the Paintings of ST. PAUL's; the Monument of the CONDE Family in the Jesuits, which consists of eleven  
 Figures

Figures as large as Life, all in Brass; the Dome of the Assumption; the Tomb of Cardinal RICHLIEU in the SORBONNE; of Cardinal MAZARINE in Mazarine Church; the Life of ST. BRUNO, finely painted (by SEUER) in the CHARTREUX; the Paintings of LE BRUN in the CARMELITES; the Exterior of VALDE de GRACE, and the Dome; the Monument of Cardinal ROCHEFOUCAULT; the Chase of the Tomb of CLOVIS, and the mean Tomb and vain Inscription of the great DESCARTES, who was removed from STOCKHOLM seventeen Years after his Death to be interred in PARIS; the royal Paintings round the Church; and lastly, the Tomb in this Church of ST. GENEVIEVE DU MONT (the Patroness of PARIS) which is supported by four Angels in Brass, who stand on four Marble Pillars sixteen Feet high: At this Shrine there is extraordinary Devotion paid on the annual Day of her Beatification. In the adjoining Church is the holy Family, with Christ dead, all in Alto-Relievo. By a particular Favour, we obtained Permission to view the holy Relics, deposited in the SAINT CHAPEL. The Relics were as follow,

low, at least according to the Priest's Expressions who shewed them.

1. The Crown of Thorns of our Lord, and some Drops of the sacred Blood inclosed in a chrystal Vessel, enriched with Diamonds.
2. A large Piece of the true Cross.
3. The Vest of our Saviour when an Infant.
4. The Image of our Saviour in Wood, which being struck by an Infidel (as he told us) bled.
5. A Ring of the Iron Chain which he was bound with.
6. The Linen with which he wiped the Apostle's Feet.
7. A Piece of the Stone of his Sepulchre.
8. The Milk, and the Hair of the holy Virgin.
9. The Iron Head of the Lance with which the Jews pierced his Side.
10. The purple Robe which he was cloathed in by the Jews.
11. The Reed which they put in his Hand.
12. The Sponge which they filled with Gall and Vinegar.
13. One Part of the Linen which he was wrapt in.

Thus having shewed us these Relics, he presented us with a printed Paper, which run thus.

“ BADOVIN II. Emperor of the Turks, being at War with the Greeks, and much distressed for Money, came into France to  
implore



implore Aid of LOUIS XI. King of France :  
 The French Baron, whom BADOVIN had left  
 to govern in his Absence, being reduced to the  
 greatest Extremity for Money to pay the  
 Troops, was compelled to pawn these precious  
 Relics (which they had kept for many Ages  
 in the imperial Palace of BLACHERNES; this  
 Engagement was made by divers Persons of  
 the Nobility, for the Sum of thirteen thousand  
 and thirty-four Pepres to the Venetians in the  
 Year 1238, but as they were not able to re-  
 deem them again, and BADOVIN being at that  
 Time at the Court of France, made an Offer  
 of them to LOUIS, upon condition of repaying  
 the Venetians, which the King most joyfully  
 accepted; and sent two of the Clergy to pay  
 the Sum and bring them into France, which  
 with much Difficulty they effected. As soon  
 as the King was informed of their Arrival, he  
 went with his Court to meet the Relics, which  
 were carried triumphantly into the City of  
 Sens, by the King and Nobles all barefoot.  
 The same Ceremony was likewise observed in  
 Paris, where they were deposited in this  
 Chapel, which by way of Distinction, from  
 hence forward was called the SAINT CHAPEL.  
 When LOUIS was at the Point of Death he  
 caused

caused all the Relics to be brought before him, as the best spiritual Remedy, which afforded him great Relief." Yet nevertheless he died of his Disorder in 1483; and for these and such like meritorious Actions, he was some Years after canonized by the Name of ST. LOUIS.

This is their own Account, which undoubtedly in some Nations will be thought romantic and improbable, yet in this Place quite the Reverse, as a general Credulity in these Particulars strongly abets some People to obtrude Fables upon the World as Facts: This I am the more inclined to believe, by having seen in other Churches, both in France and Flanders, a variety of Relics, sometimes four or five of a Sort, which they always assure you is the true Relic. In Italy several Travellers mention two Crowns of Thorns, shewn in different Parts, besides a third which is here in PARIS; and several Fragments of the Crown are shewn in Flanders, all which are asserted to be the real Relic. I need not mention the various Pieces of the true Cross, and the four Nails (by which our Saviour was nailed to the Cross) that are shewn in France  
and

and Flanders, excluding such which are in Italy and other Catholic Countries ; therefore I shall quit the Subject, only by recommending three Words, to be added to the Frontispiece of the Paper (which the Gentleman who shewed the Relics gave us) *Risum teneatis Amici ?*

Lastly, out of Curiosity, I paid a Visit to the English Benedictine Chapel in the RUE ST. JACQUES. Here is deposited the last Remains of an unfortunate King and his Daughter (James II.) The Coffin, &c. lies in State within Iron Pallisadoes, round which are Escutcheons of the Arms of England ; within the Gates they keep his Head in Wax Work, which an old Woman shews for a few Sols. His Body still remains unburied under the Canopy, which, as the Woman says, is here deposited, until it is to be brought to England to be buried among his Ancestors in Westminster. The King's Heart is buried in the Scotch College Chapel, where there is erected a fine Monument to his Memory by the Duke of PERTH : On the right Side lies the Queen's Bowels, and on the left two Dukes of the Perth Family. I took a Copy of the monu-

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mental

mental Inscription, by the Favour of the Procurator of the College, which is as follows :

D. O. M.

Memoriæ

Augustissimi Principis, JACOBI secundi Magnæ  
Britanniæ, &c. Regis.

Ille partis Terra ac Mari Triumphis clarus, sed  
constanti in Deum fide Clarior, huic Regna,  
opes et omnia vitæ florentis commoda post  
posuit, per summum Scelus a sua sede pulsus,  
Absalonis impietatem Achitophilis perfidiam  
et acerba Semei Convitia invicta lenitate et Pa-  
tientia, ipsis etiam inimicis amicus, superavit.  
Rebus humanis major, adversis Superior, et  
cœlestis Gloriæ studio inflammatus, quod  
Regno caruerit, sibi visus Beatior, miseram  
hanc vitam felici, Regnum Terrestræ Cœlesti  
commutavit. Hæc Domus, quam Princeps  
labantem sustinuit et Patrii fovit, cui etiam In-  
genii sui monumenta omnia Scilicet sua Manu-  
scripta custodienda Commisit, eam Corporis  
ipsius partem qua Maximi Animus viget, Re-  
ligiosè servandam Suscepit. Vixit Annis LXVIII.  
Regnavit XVI. Obiit XVII. Kal. Octob. An.  
Sal. Hum. M. D. C. C. I.

JACOBUS



JACOBUS Dux de Perth. Perfectus institutioni JACOBI II. Magnæ Britanniae, &c. Regis; hujus domus Benefactor,

Morens posuit.

D. O. M.

Sub hoc Marmore

Condita sunt viscera Mariæ Beatifici Reginæ Mag. Britan. Uxoris JACOBI II. Matris JACOBI III. Regis. Rarissimi Exempli Princeps fuit.

Fide et Pietate in Deum, in Conjugem; liberos Eximia Charitate in suos, Liberalitate in Pauperes, singularis.

In supremo Regni fastigio Christianam humilitatem, Regno pulsa Dignitatem, Majestatemque Retinuit.

In utraque fortuna semper eadem: nec aulæ Deliciis Emolita, nec triginta annorum Exilio Calamitatibus, omnium prope Carorum Amissione facta.

Quievit in Domino, vii. Maii,

An. MDCCXVIII. Ætatis

Anno LX°.

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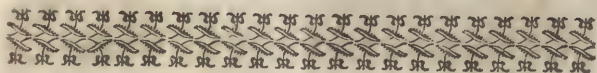
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In fine, I think their Churches are some of their greatest Curiosities, being finely decorated with votive Gifts and Paintings, &c. We shall then have an Idea of the Richness of the Clergy, and be no longer in the Dark as to the Poverty of the Laity in general; for in their Churches mostly, is the grand Treasury of France. I shall say nothing of their Exterior, as they fall infinitely short of those in London, but interiorly they greatly exceed us in Magnificence.

Thus, Sir, I have given you as particular an Account, as I could possibly draw up in a Letter, concerning the Churches and Hospitals, and I imagine wore out your Patience sufficiently, by so tedious a Description of inanimate Beings; therefore I shall conclude, by assuring you how much I am, &c.

A. R.


L E T-



## L E T T E R V.

JULY 25, 1754.

S I R,


 According to the Plan I have laid down, the royal Squares fall next under my Inspection, and consequently the public Inscriptions: the Subjects to many People will seem dry and insipid, but to you quite otherwise; nor will you (as you inform me) excuse so great an Omission; therefore I shall proceed to the Description of their principal Squares.

LA PLACE de LOUIS le GRAND, or  
PLACE VENDOME.

This Square is the principal and most spacious of any in PARIS, and is known by two Names; the first, rising from the equestrian Statue of LOUIS XIV. erected there; the second, from CÆSAR Duke of VENDOME (natural Son of HENRY IV) being the first Founder of the superb Buildings which form the

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Square;

Square ; the Order of all these Hotels are Corinthian, and have a perfect Symmetry with each other, forming an hundred and ten Windows, on a direct Level : within the Square (more justly called an Octagon) in the Middle (as mentioned before) is placed LOUIS XIV. on Horse-back all in Brass, and much larger than Life ; the King sits on the Horse, without either Saddle or Stirrups, habited like a Roman Cæsar ; this statue stands on a large Marble Pedestal, which is filled with expressive but vain Inscriptions, expressing the most remarkable Transactions of that King's Reign : this equestrian Statue is thought to be exceeding well executed, and equal if not superior to that of King CHARLES I. at Charing-Cross. The whole Figure (as the French say) cost one hundred and fifty thousand French Crowns. The Inscriptions are as follow :

LUDOVICO MAGNO DECIMO QUARTO  
FRANCORUM ET NAVARRÆ REGI  
CHRISTIANISSIMO,

Victori perpetuo, Religionis vindici, Justo,  
PIO, FELICI, PATRI PATRIÆ, erga Urbem,  
munificentissimo, quam Arcubus, Fontibus,  
Plateis, Ponte lapideo, Vallo amplissimo Ar-  
boribus



boribus confito, Decoravit, innumeris Beneficiis cumulavit, Quo imperante securi vivimus, neminem timemus. Statuam hanc Equestrem, quamdiu

Oblatam recusavit ;

Et Civum amori, omniumque votis indulgens,  
Erigi

tandem passus est,

PRÆFECTUS ET ÆDILES,

Acclamante populo, læti posuere .... 1699.

Optimum Principem Deus servet.

Christianissimus et Ecclesiæ primogenitus, Religionis antiquæ vindex, eam domi forisque propagavit. Edicto Nannetensi, quod olim temporum infelicitas extorserat, sublato. Hæreticorum factionem a Patre afflictam et exarmatam, honoribus, dignitatibus, publicis officiis spoliata, sine Bello extinxit. Tempia profanæ novitatis evertit. Pravi cultus reliquias abolevit. Ad unitatem Catholicam reversis, ne fidei morumque doctrina, et ad piè vivendum, subsidia deforent, providit. Dociles præmiis conciliavit ;

egentes Sublevavit,

Omnes clementia et mansuetudine in Officia continuit. Trecentas Ecclesias à fundamentis erexit, ornavit. In externam ASIAM, EPIS-

COPOS et SACERDOTES, qui Christum gentibus annuntiarent, misit, et liberalissime fovit. Christianos toto Oriente ab infidelium injuriis securos, præstitit. Loca sancta ut Christianis peregrinis paterent, Majestate nominis effecit. Sepulchrum Domini pretiosissimis donariis decoravit. Captivos Christianos, etiam hostes, ex Barbarica servitute liberavit. Argentoratenſi Eccleſiæ a CLODOVÆO et DAGOBERTO fundatæ Sacra Patria et Episcopum poſt ANNO C. L. II. reddidit.

Electorem Archiepiscopum Eccleſiæ TREVI-RENSI ſuæ, Erfurdiam Moguntinæ, reſtitui procuravit. Inſanos ſingularium certaminum furor ſanctiſſimis legibus, inexorabilique ſeveritate compreſſit. Domos alendis et educandis pauperibus conſtruxit et ditavit. Ampliſſimè regnare ſibi viſus eſt, cum religionem ſanctiſſimam et Caſtiſſimam, poteſtate, legibus, exemplo, juſtitia, liberalitate, defendit, ſtabilavit, firmavit.

ARMA ſemper ſumpſit invitus, poſuit volens. Chriſtiani orbis quater pacator. Illo regnante et auſpice, Scientiis, Artibus, Commercio floruit GALLIA. Viros doctrinâ inſignes ubique munifi-

munificentiâ profecutus, Scientiarum, Numismatum Picturæ, Architectonices Academiam instituit; Gallicam Academiam adoptavit, Cunctas contubernales habuit; easque, vel difficillimis temporibus, liberalitate fovit.

Peritissimos artifices tam exteros quàm suos donis invitavit, excitavit præmiis. Navalibus copiis, utramque INDIAM GALLIS aperuit. Interno mari Oceanum junxit. Litigiosas ambages foro summovit. Regnum emendavit legibus, moribus ornavit.

Superiorum judicum delectu non semel in Provincias missio, quod inferiorum vel errore, vel corruptelâ peccatum fuerat, correxit, ac tenuiores a potentiorum injuriis vindicavit. Extruxit arces aut munivit plus C C. Hostium terrores, imperii firmamenta.

Novos protus fecit, veteres ampliores tutioresque reddidit. Miles senio aut vulnere Invalidos non indecoro dedit frui otio, ac domo excepit Regiæ Pari. Nautas annis aut Vulneribus graves honesta missione dimisit, certumque stipendium constituit. Sancyrianas Ædes alendis ac educandis Nobilibus puellis ditavit.

Rerum moderator, sibi ipse conciliarius,  
 Quæstor, administer quietis, quam dat, vix  
 particeps, Tot tantique negotia sustinuit solus.  
 Aditu facilis, comis alloquio, patens semper  
 precibus, sæpè votis accurrens, PATER PA-  
 TRIÆ, omnes caritate ac providentiâ com-  
 plexus, Quantus militiæ, tantus domi, unum  
 Victoriarum laborumque fructum quæsit ;  
 felicitatem POPULORUM.

A VICTORIIS regnum puer quinquennis  
 auspicatus est. Annum xvi. ingressus, exer-  
 citibus præfuit, Fortunam Victoriâque co-  
 mîtes duxit. Licentiæ militum fræna injecit,  
 Disciplinamque Militarem restituit. Hostes  
 terrâ marique tricenis præliis fudit. CCCL.  
 Urbes munitas cepit. Bataviam una ætate  
 victoriis peragravit, Germaniæ, Hispaniæ, Ba-  
 taviæ, totiusque fere Europæ conjurata; Plu-  
 ribus in locis, maximeque diversis conatus re-  
 pressit; validissimas Urbes expugnavit, exer-  
 citus delevit,

VICTIS PACEM DEDIT.

Socios et fœderatos defendit, Servavit. Arma  
 Othomanica Germanorum cervicibus immi-  
 nentia, cæsis ad Arrabonem Turcis, depluit.

Cre-



Cretam obfessam navium et copiarum subfidiis diu sustentavit. Mare à prædonibus pacavit. ASIA, AFRICA, et AMERICA sensere quid marte posset. Imperii fines longe lateque propagavit.

#### NAVES CXX. triremes XL.

Nautarum præter remiges LX. Millia.

Bellum late divisum atque dispersum, quod conjunxerant reges potentissimi, et susceperant integræ gentes, mira prudentiâ et felicitate confecit. Regnum non modo à Belli calamitate, sed etiam à metu calamitatis defendit.

Europa damnis fatigata, conditionibus ab eo latis tandem acquievit, et cujus virtutem et Consilium armata timuerat, ejus mansuetudinem et æquitatem pacata miratur et diligit.

#### LA PLACE DES VICTOIRES.

This is an irregular Square which opens into six Streets; the Buildings are of the Ionic Taste, but neither elegant nor regular; it derives its Name of the SQUARE of VICTORIES, from the curious Group of Figures in the Middle, which represents LOUIS XIV. in his royal Robes (thirteen Feet high) and the three-headed CERBERUS lying dead at his Feet,

Feet, alluding to the triple League, over which he is supposed to triumph : VICTORY stands behind him on a Globe in a rising Posture, with one Foot on the Globe and the other in the Air ; she spreads her Wings as if on flight, and crowns the King with Laurels as she sweeps along, and in the other Hand holds an Olive Branch. These Figures are Brass gilded ; and they stand on a Marble Pedestal twenty Feet high, on which are several fine Bas-Reliefs ; such as the Contention between France and Spain for Precedency ; the Passage of the Rhine ; the taking of Franche-Comté ; the Peace of Nimeguen ; the Destruction of Heresy, and Abolition of Duelling. At the Bottom of the Pedestal are four Slaves in Chains, larger than the Life, with their military Trophies disdainfully placed under the King's Feet, intimating that he triumphed over four Nations. I am quite at a Loss to name these Nations to you, nor could I meet with any Person to inform me. The whole Group is of Brass, and weighs (as they say) three hundred thousand Weight, and was all cast at one Running ; but whether this is strictly true I shall not insist : yet we must certainly allow it to be the most magnificent and inimitable Piece of Statuary

tuary that was ever executed by any Artist.  
Under the King is this Inscription;

V I R O I M M O R T A L I \*.

A L O U I S L E G R A N D,

LE PERE ET LE CONDUCTEUR DES ARMEES  
TOUJOURS HEUREUX.

Après avoir vaincu ses Ennemies, protégé ses  
Alliez; Ajouté de tres puissants Peuples a son  
Empire. Assuré ses Frontieres par des Places  
imprenables. Joint l'Ocean a la Miditeranée.  
Chassé les Pirates de toutes les Mers. Re-  
formé les Loix. Detruit l'Herefie. Porté par  
le Bruit de son Nom les Nations les plus Bar-  
bares a le venir Reverer des Extremitez de la  
Terre. Et regelé parfaitement toutes Choses  
au dedans et au dehors par la Grandeur de son  
Courage et de son Genie.

FRANCIS VISCOMTE D'AUBUSSON Duc de  
la FEUILLADE, Pair et Marechal de FRANCE,

\* The Original is in Latin, but so greatly defaced and worn out, that I could not possibly transcribe with Propriety half the Inscription; therefore I was obliged to insert the French Translation which a Gentleman favoured me with; it possibly may express the Purport of the Latin one, as it runs remarkably smooth, but for it's being a literal Translation I cannot assert.

Go-

Gouverneur de Dauphinè, et Colonel des Gardes  
Francoises.

Pour perpetuelle Memoire a la Postérité.

Inscription pour la Statue du Roy.

Tali se ore ferens, Orbi et Sibi, jura modumque,  
Dat Lodoix, famamque affectat vincere factis.

Tel est le Grand LOUIS, en son Air, en ses  
Traits :

Tel, dans le haut Eclat de sa Gloire suprême,  
Il impose des Loix à la Terre, a lui-meme ;  
Et voit sa Renommée au dessous de ses Faits.

#### I N S C R I P T I O N S

Des Bas Reliefs du Piedestal. La Preseance  
de la France, reconnue par L'Espagne. 1662.

Indocilis quondam potiori cedere Gallo,  
Ponit Iber tumidos fastus, et cedere discit.

En vain au premier Roy de l'Empire Chretien,  
Tu veux, superbe Espagne, egaler ta Couronne :  
LOUIS, jaloux du Droit que son Sceptre lui  
donne ;

Te force à reconnoître, et son Rang, et le Tein.



## LE PASSAGE DU RHIN. . . . 1672.

Granicum Macedo, Rhenum fecat agmine

Gallus :

Quisquis facta voles conferre, et flumina Confer.

Le Grec fend le Granique, avecque ses Dra-  
peaux ;

Et le François armè passe le RHIN anage :

Qui voudra comparer l'un et l'autre passage,

Que d'un fleuve, et de l'autre il compare les  
aux.

LA DERNIERE CONQUESTE DE LA FRANCHE-  
COMTE. . . . 1674.

Sequanicam Cæsar gemino vix Vincere Gentem,  
Mense valet ; LODOIX terquintâ luce fubegit.

Et Cæsar et LOUIS, dans leur rapide Cours,

N'ont rein que les égale, et rein qui les arrête :

Tous deux, ardens à vaincre, ont fait même  
Conquête ;

Mais Cæsar endeux Mois, LOUIS, en quinze  
Jours.

LA PAIX de NIMEGUEN. . . . 1678.

Augustus, toto jam nullis hostibus orbe,

Pacem agit : armato LODOIX Pacem imperat  
orbi.

Quand

Quand l'Univers est las des fureurs de la  
Guerre,

Le Temple de JANUS par AUGUSTE est fermé;  
Il accorde la Paix aux besoins de la Terre;  
Et LOUIS la commande a l'Univers armé.

### LES DUELS ABOLIS.

Impia, quæ licuit Regnum componere Nulli,  
Prælia, voce tuâ, LODOIX, composta quiescunt.

Pour bannir les Duels, de l'Empire des lis,  
En vain non plus grands Rois ont tout mis en  
usage;

Le Ciel au seul LOUIS reservoit cet Ouvrage:  
Il parle, et pour jamais on les voit abolis.

### L'HERESIE DETRUITE .... 1685.

Hic laudum cumulus, LODOICO vindice vixtrix,  
Religio, et pulsus male partis sedibus error.

La Gloire de LOUIS est ici toute sainte;  
Les Temples de l'Erreur qui tombent à sa Voix,  
L'Eglise qui triomphe, et l'Herésie éteinte;  
De son Zele Chretien sont les dignes Exploits.

### LA PLACE ROYAL.

This Square, for the Regularity and pro-  
portionable Symmetry in the Buildings, ex-

cels all the Squares I ever saw ; it is com-  
 pletly and beautifully piazz'd round like Co-  
 vent Garden, but in a far more elegant Taste.  
 In the Middle is erected an equestrian Statue  
 of LOUIS XIII. by Cardinal RICHLIEU : It  
 stands on a Marble Pedestal, on which are se-  
 veral Inscriptions, expressing the most memo-  
 rable Events of that Monarch's Reign ; I can-  
 not give you a just Copy of these Inscriptions,  
 as I had seldom an Opportunity of going thro'  
 the Pallisadoes which surround it. The  
 Squares in general in Paris are pleasing to the  
 Eye, upon the Account of the exact Level,  
 and Regularity of the same Model of all the  
 Buildings which forms the Square ; in this  
 Particular, I allow the Preference to Paris :  
 but for spacious Squares, and beautiful ma-  
 jestic Boldness, those in London claim a Su-  
 periority.

### P L A C E M A U B E R T.

This is the most material public Market in  
 Paris, though vastly inconsiderable to several  
 in London : Herbage and Fruit are very rea-  
 sonable : and all Kinds of wild and tame Fowl  
 are sold (on one of the Quays near the Pont-  
 Neuf) exceeding cheap ; their Beef, Mutton,  
 and

and Veal are well tasted, but not quite so pleasing to the Eye as they are in London : During the Exile of the Parliament, all Sorts of Provisions were dearer than common, as they regulate the Markets, and fix a stated Price occasionally, upon all Commodities exposed publicly to Sale ; though this was an inconsiderable Inconveniency to others, which the Parisians suffered by their Banishment.

Thus, Sir, at length, I have traversed thro' this Labyrinth of Inscriptions, which has been more painful and laborious than all my preceding Letters ; in regard to the Errors (which I am certain there are many) I may truly say they were almost unavoidable, since a tedious copying of Inscriptions, which are exposed to the Inclemency of the Weather, where many of the Letters were so much obliterated as to be difficult to trace, and in some Places even whole Words were totally effaced, that I was at Liberty to substitute other Words, and even to guess at their original Meaning : therefore as I have ingenuously acknowledged some Alterations, I the more readily submit the whole of these tedious Transcriptions to your Candour.

I am with Esteem, &c.

A. R.





## L E T T E R VI.

Different Orders of the Clergy, Orders of Knighthood, Equipages, and Theatres.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1754.

S I R,



T may not be unnecessary, in this Place, to take some Notice of the different Orders of the Religious, their several Institutions and Rules ; for nothing can be more striking to the Eye of a Stranger, than the Variety of Habits which are seen here, worn by the Clergy : Let it be remembered that when I mentioned the Nuns, I only meant those in the English Convents ; in regard to the French Nuns, I could not obtain any satisfactory Account of them ; therefore I shall be silent on that Head. I must here ingenuously acknowledge an Obligation to an English Benedictine, who, on this particular Subject, inspected my Notes, and added

H

many

many Observations, which would probably have never been thought of by me; therefore you may rely on the Facts.

Some People pretend to say, that one Tenth of the Community are in Convents and Colleges, but I will not take upon me to assert this, tho' indeed the Clergy are exceeding numerous \*: They are divided into different Confraternities,

\* I have lately seen an Estimate of the Number of Religious of both Sexes, compared to the military Forces in France; including all Sorts who have taken the three Vows of Chastity, &c. I shall copy the facetious Author's own Words, only omitting a little of his Party-Zeal, and virulent manner of Criticising.

“ In France there are one thousand three hundred and fifty-six Abbies of Benedictines, Cistercians, regular Canons and Premonstrants: Now if we reckon ten or eleven in each Abbey, one with another, Lay-Brothers included, they will make fourteen thousand nine hundred Men.---These he facetiously calls *Royal Regiments*.

Thirteen thousand four hundred and twenty-one Convents of Monks, such as Dominicans, Franciscans, Augustines, Carmelites, Mathurins, Minims, &c. they may amount to one hundred and sixty thousand.---He calls these *Field Regiments*.

Twelve thousand four hundred Priories, supposed to contain two in each; one with another they make twenty-four thousand eight hundred.—*Garriſons, and private Guards of the Officers*.

One hundred and thirty-eight Cathedrals, double the Number of collegiate Churches, will amount, upon the lowest Computation, to seventeen thousand three hundred.—*Gendarmery*.

Jesuits, Oratorians, Doctrinarians, and Lazarists, make at least fifteen thousand.

Petty

fraternities, with different Rules and Constitutions prescribed by their respective Founders; different Habits; different Exercises of Devotion and Penance; different Institutes; some intirely sequestered from the World, in continual Prayer and Contemplation; others in Preaching, Teaching, and Converting; and others in attending the Sick, redeeming Captives from Slavery, and other Acts of Charity. There are three Vows common to them all (but some have more) POVERTY, to renounce all Property to the Things in this World; CHASTITY, in renouncing all carnal Pleasures; OBEDIENCE, to give up their own Will to that of God, and an entire Obedience to their Superior of the Order.

Petty Friars, School-Friars, &c. ten thousand.---He calls these *Hussars, Grassins, Pandours, &c.*

Six hundred Abbies of Nuns, besides Priories, which computed at twenty-one, one with the other, will make sixteen or seventeen thousand.---These Ladies, he says, ought to be the *Ladies of the Officers, and necessary Women to the Valets.*

Congregants, Ursulines, Visitandines, are near the same Number, and amount to upwards of twenty-three thousand.---*Soldiers Wives.*

Suttlereffes, found among the Grey, Red, Black, and Hyrondells, amount to thirty thousand.

The Number of Religious of both Sexes in France, he says, amounts to five hundred thousand People, who engross a full Third of the Riches of the Kingdom, having a Revenue equal to twenty-four or twenty-five Millions.

## CARTHUSIANS.

This religious Order was instituted by ST. BRUNO, who was a Canon at RHEIMS, and afterwards betook himself to Solitude, in order to dedicate the Remainder of his Days to the Service of God. His Retreat, or rather Hermitage, was upon the Top of a very steep Hill in the Province of Dauphiny, called CHARTREUSE, from whence the Order derives its Name. It is vastly pleasing to view the Convent and Cells of these Religious; every one has his particular Apartment, together with a Study, Work-Room, and small Garden, which they take great Pleasure in adorning, and cultivating the useful Plants. According to their Institution, their whole Time is taken up in Praying, Studying, and some innocent Occupation: There is almost a perpetual Silence enjoined, excepting two Days in the Week they are permitted to converse with each other; and always their first Salutation is *Memento Mori*: It is likewise observed, that none of them have the Privilege to go into the Town but the Prior and Procurator. In their Diet they are extremely abstemious, and never eat Flesh but when they  
are



are out of Health, and then it is not properly Meat, but the Broth and Juice of it; their Diet in general consists of Herbs, Roots, Fish, Eggs, &c. Their Habit is a Kind of a loose Robe of coarse white Cloth; and instead of a Shirt of Linen, they wear one made of Hair-cloth; they are bare-leg'd, but have Sandals on their Feet; their Heads are always close shaved, and their Beards very long: Round the Waste they wear a thick Leather-Girdle, interwoven with Steel, by way of a continual Penance; their Beds are plain Boards and Straw, with an Hair-cloth for their Covering. But the most singular Rule of this strict Order, is their Treatment of a dying Brother: A few Hours before his Dissolution, they scatter some Ashes upon the Earth, upon which they lay the Agonizant, with a Crucifix between his Hands, and he is kept in this Posture until he expires.

### C A P U C H I N S,

Were instituted by ST. FRANCIS, and so called, from the Reformation made in their Habit; it is a very austere Order, and next to the Carthusians; they never are permitted to handle Money, nor have they any Occasion for it, as they beg from Door to Door; and

whatever their charitable Labour and Industry brings them, is converted to the Use of the Convent, and the Overplus distributed among the Poor at their Gates. Their Dress differs not much from that of the Carthusians, save only that they wear a white Robe, and the Capuchins a coarse brown Cloth loose Robe, girt about with a Cord, at which hangs the Crucifix and Beads; their Legs are bare, but have Sandals on their Feet, and their Hair shaved close, save only one small round Spot, which is left, in Allusion to the Crown of Thorns; their Beards are generally very long, which makes them appear exceeding venerable. There are several Communities of them in Paris, but the most remarkable is that in the FAUBOURG ST. HONORE.

#### CARMES or CARMELITES.

This religious Order derives its Name from the sacred Mountain of Carmel in Palestine, famous for the Retreat of the Prophet ELIAS, and the Miracles he performed there. AIMERIE, Nuncio of the holy See in the East, instituted this Order, in the Reign of ALEXANDER III. Patriarch of Antiochia; the Rules he prescribed them were so severe and so incompatible,

compatible, that it was judged proper to reform them, which was done by Pope HONORE IV. Their Habit is a loose Robe of white Cloth, and a long Cloak of coarse black Cloth; many of them wear white Hats, from whence Foreigners call them the *Chapeaux Blancs* (or White Hats); others wear a large Cowl or Hood, the same as their Habit. In 1238, ST. LOUIS brought over from Syria a considerable Body of them into France; they are accounted rich, and have honoured their Country with many learned Men. There is likewise another Body of them who wear neither Shoes or Sandals, but go always Bare-foot, and for this Reason are called *Carmes Dechaufès*; their Heads are close shaved, excepting a small Space representing a Crown of Thorns; in reality they are the same as the Carmes above mentioned, only of a later Institution.

### B E N E D I C T I N E S.

So nominated from ST. BENEDICT (vulgo BENNET) who lived in the fifth Century, and founded many Monasteries; there is a Body of them in St. James's Street in Paris, who are all English: The Benedictines are accounted the richest Order of all the Religious.

Their Habit is a loose Robe of black Cloth, and a Cowl hanging behind, and their Heads close shaved.

### FRANCISCANS, or GREY FRIARS,

Are so called from their Habit, being of coarse grey Cloth; they are always in a State of Poverty and Penance, and are more numerous than any of the religious Orders; they commonly divide themselves into three Branches, two of which are the Capuchins and the Cordeliers. The Nuns of this Order are called poor Clares, from ST. CLARE, who first received the Habit from ST. FRANCIS, and their first Abbess; besides these, there are other Nuns of the Capuchins, from the third Order of ST. FRANCIS.

### ORDER of ST. JOHN.

These are stiled the Reverend Fathers of ST. JOHN de DEO, and were instituted to take Care of the Sick, which they do very carefully at the Charity Hospital. Their Habit is of black Cloth, like the Benedictines.

### CORDELIERS,

Are a Branch from the Franciscans, but take the Name of Cordelier, from a knotted  
Cord,



Cord, which binds their Vest close about their Body. They live in their own proper Convent on a considerable Revenue, and are cloathed as the last Order.

### J E S U I T S,

Or the Society of JESUS, were instituted by ST. IGNATIUS, in the Year 1540 : They are accounted a very rich Body, and are generally in great Favour at Court, more than the rest of the Clergy. After the Murder of HENRY IV. they fell in Disgrace, and were exiled from Paris forty Years, but were at length restored to all their former Liberties, by the Solicitations of the Pope. Their Habit is a close Vest of fine black Cloth, and a long black Cloak over their Shoulders ; they never shave their Heads but constantly wear their Hair ; nor do they wear Bands round the Neck as the other Clergy do.

### M I N I M E S.

This Order was instituted by ST. FRANCIS of Paula in 1450, and authorised by Pope SEXTUS IV. 1507. In Spain they are called Peres de la Victoire (Fathers of Victory) on the Account of a Victory FERDINAND V. gained

gained over the Moors, according to the Prediction of ST. FRANCIS, who afterwards obliged the Order to take the Name of MINIMES, by way of Humility. This Order, besides the three Vows of Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience, have a fourth, which obliges them to keep a continual Lent: Their Habit is much the same as the Jesuits, only they shave their Heads close.

#### ORDERS of HONOUR of the KING.

There are in France six Orders of Knighthood, whereof the King is the Head, being the Fountain of all Honour: Some of these Orders are limited to a certain Number; others are not limited, but are exceeding numerous, as every Soldier of Merit, or by length of Service, may claim Knighthood; as will be mentioned in its proper Place.

#### L'ORDRE de L'ETOILE,

Or ORDER of the STAR. This is the most antient Order in France, insomuch that they are ignorant of the Time of its Institution; some say it is as antient as the Reign of King JOHN. All the Knights wear an embroidered  
Gold

Gold Star upon their Coat, without any Ribbon.

### L'ORDRE de ST. MITCHEL.

ORDER of ST. MICHAEL, was instituted in 1469 by LOUIS XI. This is a military Order, and limited to one hundred Knights, who have always the Order of the Holy Ghost, before they can claim this Order: The Collar which they wear, is a Number of small double Shells of Gold, interlaced with a Cord of Gold, at the End of which hangs a large Medal of Gold, representing ST. MICHAEL, and the Dragon lying under him dead. The Manner of their Creation is as follows: The Gentleman kneels before the King, who with his naked Sword gives him three gentle Blows on the Shoulder, pronouncing at the same Time, *De par St. George et de par St. Michael, je vous fais Chevalier*: Of the Order of St. George and St. Michael I make you a Knight.

### L'ORDRE de ST. ESPRIT,

ORDER of the HOLY GHOST, was instituted by HENRY III. 1578; the Knights are limited

limited to one Hundred, and are obliged to produce an Attestation of being noble for three Generations, before they can have this Honour conferred on them. In this Order are four Cardinals and four Bishops of the Court of France; all the Knights have a Pension annexed of three thousand Livres per Annum. They are commonly called the Knights of the Cordon Bleu, from the blue Ribbon which is one of their Ensigns of Honour, and always worn under their Coat, across the right Shoulder; at the End is suspended a Cross of Gold (this is the Manner of all the Ribbons of the different Orders, and not over the Coat, as in England.) Their Mantle is black Velvet, spangled with Gold in the Form of the Flower-de-Luce; and on their left Arm, a large Silver Star, representing the Holy Ghost in the Form of a Dove: They wear another Collar round the Neck, of Gold, of the same Flowers, and enamelled of a flame Colour: This Collar is said to be worth one hundred French Crowns, which devolves to the Treasury after the Decease of the Chevalier; another Badge of the Order is a black Velvet Hat, and a white Feather in it. The Manner of their  
Creation



Creation is much the same as above mentioned ; his Majesty puts on the Collars, Mantle, and Hat, for which the Knight thanks the King for the Honour he has conferred upon him, and then retires. (Vide the grand Proceſſion of theſe Knights in the Deſcription of Verfailles.)

### L'ORDRE de ST. LOUIS.

The KNIGHTS of ST. LOUIS are truly Military, and were inſtituted by LOUIS XIV. 1693 : Their Number is unlimited, and conſequently exceeding numerous ; for any Soldier may claim the Order, if he has behaved well during a ten Years Service, or even much ſooner, if his Valour in Battle merits it. This Order is ſo common in Paris, that the Knights are almoſt innumerable ; and many have little elſe to comfort themſelves but the mere Title of Chevalier, and a Badge of the Order, which is a ſmall Gold enamelled Croſs, fixed to their Button-Hole by a narrow red Ribbon ; on one Side is the Image of ST. LOUIS, and this Motto, LUD. M. INSTITUT. 1693, on the other Reverse a naked Sword, and BAL. VIRTUTIS PRÆM. The Deſign of this Inſtitution, was in order to excite Emulation and  
Bravery

Bravery in the Soldiery, during the Wars of LOUIS XIV. And there were several Instances during the late War 1741, where common Soldiers refused Commissions (for their Valour) to be made Knights ; there is a trifling Salary annexed to the Order, about ten Pounds per Annum.

### L'ORDRE de ST. LAZARE.

ORDER of ST. LAZARUS, was instituted in 1138 by LOUIS VIII. MILITARY ORDER of the VIRGIN MARY : This is united to the above Order ; the Badge is a small Cross enamelled, and attached to the Button-hole with a blue or purple Ribbon.

### T H E A T R E S

In PARIS are four in Number, viz. French Comedy, Opera, and Italian Comedy, and Comic Opera : Their Interiors are all of an oval Form, and galleried round in three Heights ; the Pit is esteemed the worst Place in the House, having no Seats, in some Degree resembling the Orchestra of the Antients, and every Person here stands during the whole Performance ; Women are not allowed to come into the Pit : While the Scenes are acting, great Regularity is observed by the Audience ; and no Person permitted to disturb  
the

the House, as in England, not even to put on their Hats until the Conclusion ; which Ceremonies are strictly complied with by the Awe of the Soldiers, who are stationed all over the House. The French pride themselves much in their Theatres, and for correct Pieces, which, they tell us, may vie with any Stage in Europe. Their Critics universally condemn our Stage in all Points, and will not allow us to understand the dramatic Rules ; but if we do, we seldom practise them, as there ought always to be Unity of Time and Place, and nothing represented on the Stage either unnatural or shocking to the Senses. In these Criticisms we must allow them to censure with Propriety ; for in several of our well-received Pieces, Unity and Time are not observed ; and we often find Variety of Scenes and Actions in the same Play, laid in different Countries by our great SHAKESPEAR (who was an Enemy to all Constraint) and other eminent Writers. The French Poets observe, in some Measure, the Rules of the Drama better than we, as they seldom shift the Scene of Action to different Places ; neither is the Attention of the Audience taken off by a Variety of Scenery, which

which seldom changes until the Plot is brought to a Crisis. The English Writers have long expelled Rhime in dramatic Poetry, by which Means they follow Nature cloſer, and raiſe the tragic Sublime to an higher Pitch; on the contrary, the French deſpiſe Proſaic Tragedy, and always write them in Rhime, which, to the Ear of a Stranger, is odd and diſagreeable. Nothing is more condemned by them, than the Representation of Murders on the Stage, which is looked upon as a great Abſurdity in the Engliſh Sons of Parnaffus: For Comedy we muſt allow them the Superiority; their Pieces in general infinitely excelling ours, in ſprightly Wit and Humour. Their Tragedy (in my Opinion) is yet far from its *dernier* Perfection; nor do their Writers care to mount the unruly Pegafus in this Strain, leſt he ſhould run aſtray; for this is a Theme which muſt ſoar, and few Poets are capable in Rhime to ſupport, with Energy, a Tragedy throughout, as their Thoughts are more confined, than in nervous blank Verſe. If I may be allowed to give my Thoughts between the French and Engliſh Stage, I muſt give the Preference to ours in Tragedy, Scenery, and an highly embellished Theatre; the Superiority  
to



to the French in correct Pieces, according to the antient dramatic Rules, and Comedy replete with Wit. If we can boast of a Garrick, Woodward, and a Cibber, they can also of a Granvillé, Previllé, Dumené, and Cleroné. If Shakespear, Addison, Congreve, Steel, Farquar, Cibber, shined in our Nation,— permit me to say, to the Glory of the Muses, Moliere, Racine, Corneille, Roffeau, Voiture, and Voltaire, shined equally in theirs; finally, they excel us in Stage-Dancing and Singing.

### E Q U I P A G E S

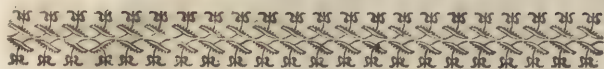
In Paris are exceeding magnificent, and totally eclipse those in England: They as much exceed ours in Grandeur, as my Lord Mayor's Coach does a common Road Phaeton; nay, I say that they are superfluously grand, and extravagant in these Particulars; for what with their fine Paintings, Gilding, and shining Varnish, we say with the Poet, That they resemble the Chariot of the Sun. They differ from us in one Point; for few of their Nobility or Noblesse have their Family-Arms painted on the Coach; but, on the contrary, some pleasing rural Scene finely painted and varnished.

No Colours here blazon a Man's Nobility so much as a grand Retinue, with six or eight Valets and Pages, in embroidered Liveries, Hat and Feather, and large silver-headed Canes. Foreigners are often at a Loss to distinguish the Nobility by their Equipages, as both the Noblesse and Nobility ride in their gilded Coach and eight Horses, decorated with Ribbons, and surrounded with Groups of Valets and Running-footmen. As we excel the French in Horses for the Field, so they excel us in Coach Horses, which are either Friesland, Danish, or Prussian; they are large and well moulded, have a remarkable Vivacity, and are exceeding tractable.

Upon looking over this Letter, I find I have given my Opinion in some Particulars, with more Freedom than I have hitherto attempted, even with more Openness than I ever designed, and consequently laid myself open to Censure; yet please to remember, that I only deliver it as my own Opinion, which I desire you will not adopt, until a more able Person has confirmed my Censures.

I am, &c.

A. R.



# L E T T E R VII.

Amphitheatres, Public Libraries, Colleges, Nunneries, &c.

Nov. 20, 1754.

S I R,

THE Books, by our Ambassador's  
 T Courier, were left for me at the English  
 Coffee-House, for which be pleased  
 to accept of my Thanks. I perceive, by your  
 last Letter, that I have still more Difficulties to  
 encounter, as you seem not contented with  
 the descriptive Part of this Metropolis, but lay  
 a further Obligation upon me to visit, and give  
 you an Account of, the Palaces, Gardens, and  
 Curiosities in the Environs of Paris. Give me  
 Leave to tell you, that Versailles, and the adja-  
 cent Places, have been long the Discourse of  
 many Travellers, and almost a worn-out Sub-  
 ject, so that I can say nothing new to answer  
 your Expectations: However, I shall endea-  
 vour to give you all the Information I could

possibly obtain, both by ocular Demonstration and Enquiry, and send it by the Post before I leave France. Before I take the Country Air, it will be proper to complete the descriptive Part of this City, which I shall now pursue according to the Plan.

### ACADEMIE ROYAL de CHIRURGIE.

The ROYAL ACADEMY of SURGERY is situated in the Ruë des Cordeliers. Here the Society of Surgeons meet weekly, to read the new Memoirs of Improvements in Surgery, Anatomy, &c. Adjoining is their Amphitheatre, called ST. COSME, where, by the Bounty of the King, are Lectures read gratis to all Nations; such as Physiology, Pathology, Midwifery, Anatomy, and Operation. At these Lectures no Exceptions are made to any Person; and the Barber's Boy has the same Advantages of taking Notes, &c. as the Son of the premier Surgeon to the King; each Pupil (provided he attends regularly) after the Course is completed, is given a printed Attestation, signed and sealed by the Professor whose Lectures he attended. ST. COSME is built in a rotund Form, in the same Taste as Surgeons-Hall in London: Over the Door is this Inscription:

SCHOLA



## SCHOLA REGIA CHIRURGICORUM.

Within the Amphitheatre is a fine white Marble Bust of the King's Surgeon, Monsieur Peyronie; on the Pedestal is,

Franciscus de la Peyronie LUDOVICI XV.  
Regis Christianitissimi Chirurgicus primarius et  
unus è Medicis a Consultationibus.

On each Side this Busto, are these Inscriptions on Marble:

Opes, Studio, fama,  
Labore partas, Restituendæ Civum  
Valetudini, perficiendisq̃ue, peritissi-  
Morum Chirurgicorum Lucubrationibus,  
Sacrandas Censuit.

On the opposite Side,  
Regiam Chirurgicorum Parisensem  
Academiam ex Bessè,  
Montis pessufanam ex Triente,  
Super Tabulis Hæredis instituit. XIV.  
KAL. MAL. MDCC. XC. VII.

## SCHOLA MEDICA,

Or L'ECOLE de MEDICINE, is in the Butcher's Street near the Hotel Dieu. This is another public School, where Lectures are

read relative to Physic and Surgery ; Over the Door of the Amphitheatre is,

Vetustate Collapsum Ære suo Restituerunt  
Medicis Parisenses Anno R. S. H. D. CC. XLIV.  
Monsieur ELIA Col. de VILLARS DECANO.

And within the Amphitheatre,

Imperante LUDOVICO XV. nomina et Cogno-  
mina Doctorum

Saluberrimæ Facultatis Medicæ Parisensis actu  
Regentium.

Jussu Saluberrimæ Facultatis Medicæ,  
Inauguravit Monsieur JAC. BENIG. WINSLOW,  
Die XVIII, Feb. M. D. CC. XIV, GUILLELMO  
JOSEPHO de L'EPINE PARIS DECANO.

#### REGIUM FRANCIAE COLLEGIUM.

The ROYAL COLLEGE is situated in the Place Cambray. In the Theatre are read Lectures in Botany, Surgery, Physic, Pharmacy, Mathematics, Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Arabic, and the Oriental Languages ; every Branch has two Professors, one for the Morning and the other for Evening Lecture.

These excellent Nurseries to the Arts and Sciences most certainly merit the greatest Encomiums ; if Padua was formerly stiled

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The Learned, Paris may now claim the same Title, being brought to the greatest Perfection by LOUIS XIV. under the Direction of his able Minister Monsieur COLBERT, that memorable Encourager of Arts and Sciences. At the Theatre of the College Navarre, are given Lectures on experimental and natural Philosophy, by the celebrated Abbé NOLET : His Apparatus is thought to be the completest of any in Europe, and are all bought at the Charge of the Crown, the Abbé being their royal Professor.

### B I B L I O T H E Q U E S.

There are six public Libraries in Paris, where, without Exceptions, any Person may study five Hours in the Day, between Morning and Evening. In these Libraries I spent many a leisure Hour with infinite Pleasure ; nor can I possibly omit mentioning the Civility of the Keepers, who take a particular Satisfaction in obliging Strangers with any Volume in the Library, and Pen, Ink, and Paper, either to transcribe or to make Remarks : For these public Funds of Entertainment are not mere dumb Idols as many in England are, only to be viewed and not for the public Perusal. Here such who are fond of a tranquil

studious Life, may daily converse with the illustrious Dead; a most effectual Security from the attracting Charms of the Fair. The King's Library in the RUE ST. HONORE, is allowed to be the largest in Europe. Here are likewise kept a fine Collection of Medals and Prints; but what a little tarnishes the Magnificence of this Library, is several Thousands of artificial Books. It is open every Tuesday and Friday, at Nine in the Morning and Three in the Evening.

The Library of ST. GERMAINS is open every Day, except on the Holidays. Of ST. VICTOR, open Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. MAZARINE, Mondays and Thursdays. Medical, every Thursday. Of Law, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

#### COLLEGES and SEMINARIES.

Of the former there are fifty-seven, and of the latter fifteen in Paris; these quiet Asylums are appropriated entirely for the Religious, and the Instruction of Youth: We find in venerable BEDE, that these Retreats were not formed into regular Monasteries, until the Beginning of the fourth Century; about the Middle of the



the third Century ST. PAUL was the first Hermit, who, being prosecuted by DECIUS in the Year 249, retired into the Defart of THEBAIS. In the Year 271, ST. ANTONY, a young Egyptian Gentleman, quitted his Estate and the World, to dedicate himself to a religious Life, and retired into a Defart, with several People which followed him, and he is generally regarded as the Father and Author of a monastic Life. From these Beginnings, the Defarts of EGYPT and THEBAIS were soon peopled with innumerable Solitaries and Religious of both Sexes; and when RUFINUS visited these Countries in the latter End of the fourth Century, he found in the City of OXYRINCUS ten thousand religious Men, and twenty thousand Nuns. I cannot find any Historian, who does directly point out the Period when these recluse Places were first introduced into England; but BEDE says, that BANGOR in WALES was the most antient Monastery, and contained two thousand Monks. But the Remains of these Recesses in the British Dominions in our Days, are only as a Memento of the Splendor of the Clergy, before HENRY VIII. clipped their Wings.

The

The Exterior of all these Buildings are of Stone, vastly lofty, and seem to encroach upon the Heavens; the Windows are strongly barricadoed with Iron, something like Newgate, and are double-gated, at which sits a CERBERUS, or Porter, to prevent the Students going out, unless by the Superior's Orders; their Interior much resembles a Prison, being divided into several small Rooms, and little Furniture; all which are eminently dirty. The Students are kept exceeding close to Study, and seldom enter the Town unless the whole Group go together, by which Means we often meet a String of thirty, fifty, or sixty, coupled two and two, and followed by the Prior or Procurator of the College or Monastery. These Inhabitants of the Colleges are commonly cloathed in black close Vests, with a large black Cloak trailing down their Backs; a small round Spot is close shaved on their Heads, which they cover with a Piece of Leather called the *Calote*, as an Emblem of a Crown of Thorns; round the Neck they wear a Band of white or blue Linen, according to their Study, as Logic, Rhetoric, Metaphysics, &c.

&c. and when in Clafs, they wear a loofe Robe of ftriped Stuff.

## N U N N E R I E S

In Paris are large clofe Buildings, furrounded with high Walls ; and, to add to their folemn Appearance, are moftly all ftrongly barricadoed and double walled interiorly ; fo that the delightful Beams of the Sun, is almoft denied a fmall Crevise to peep at thefe reclufe Ladies. There is a large Garden belonging to each Convent, which is covered by exceeding high Walls, fo as not to be overlooked by the adjoining Buildings ; in thefe the Nuns walk in the fine Weather, reading their Evening Devotions. When you vifit a Convent, you enter into a narrow, Paffage, between two thick Walls, where is a fmall Window ftrongly barr'd with Iron, about eight Feet from the Ground, covered with an Hair-cloth ; near this is a hollow Machine, which turns upon an Iron Pin. In this Vehicle the Provisions are conveyed into the Houfe. Adjoining to the Window is a Bell, which the Vifiter founds to give the youngeft Sifter (who is the Portrefs) Notice of a Perfon attending : The Alarum being given, fhe immediately draws the Cloth afide,

aside, so as just to peep at you, and demand your Business; if the Visit is to one of the Nuns she delivers a Key, by which you are admitted into an adjoining Parlour, which is divided in the Middle by a large Iron Grate, about four Yards Diameter, but so closely platted, as scarcely to admit three Fingers through each Square; at the Side of the Grate is a small hollow Machine as the former, to convey Presents to the Nuns, or to receive Coffee, Cake, or Wine from them, which is commonly their Treat. Every Votary knows her Call by a particular Alarum (given by the Portress at the Window) on the Bell, as three or nine distinct Tangs, which distinguishes a Nun from a Lay Sister: In a short Time, the Door on the opposite Side the Grate is opened by the visited Nun, who enters veiled, and draws her Chair close to the Barricado, which the Visiter does likewise; the Distance between the Persons in this Situation is barely six Inches, but by the strong Iron Grate intervening, the Visiter may be highly pleased, and yet lament his Situation. At the AUGUSTINE Nunnery of English Ladies, the Votary is habited in a close Lawn Vest, her Hair entirely concealed by a Linen which covers all  
her



her Head and Forehead, and the Veil of black Cloth flows loose upon her Shoulders, and occasionally over her Head and Face, which is always so at her first Appearance to a Stranger, though afterwards out of Complaisance she unveils; this Vest is bound about the Waste by a Silk Cord, at which is suspended her Crucifix and Beads.

Their Conversation is sprightly, witty, and entertaining, and not full of that Solemnity and Gravity which their dull Retreat prepares the Visiter to expect: One Caution is absolutely necessary, "Never make long Visits," as you are to suppose (according to the Rules of the Order) that her Devotions employ most of her Hours.

As I have mentioned the Nuns, and probably excited your Curiosity, to know the Manner of being initiated, and professing their Vows, I could not omit in this Place (as it has a Connexion with the foregoing Subject) to mention two Ceremonies, at which I had the particular Favour and Pleasure to be a Spectator. But first it may not be unnecessary to premise that there is three English Convents in  
Paris,

Paris, viz. the white, blue, and black Nuns, each Sisterhood taking this Name from the outward Habit, being either white, blue, or black; but the black Veil and Lawn Vest is common to them all. The first Lady I shall mention was a Scholar at the white Nuns, a Lancashire Lady, well known in most of the neighbouring Counties for her singular Beauty; but as Reasons of State, have induced her (since my Return to England) to embrace a Call to the World, as laudable, I must beg to conceal her Name, and shall only take Notice of the Ceremony of her first Initiation.

Miss Barbara D—n had partly received her Education at a Convent in Flanders, and then came to England; after some Stay here she returned to France, and boarded at the English Convent in Paris: Being here a few Months, she desired to receive the first Habit of the Order, which Ceremony was as follows: After the Celebration of the Mass, the Curtain before the Iron Grate was drawn aside, and discovered all the Nuns properly habited and veiled: The pretty Votary was dressed in her best Cloaths, and her Head decorated in the gayest Taste; she kneeled in the Middle  
of

of the Choir, with a burning Wax Taper before her. The Ceremony began with the Nuns chanting, " O come thou Creator, &c." After which the Lady Abbess called the Votary, who kneeled before her, while she took off her Head-dress and dishevelled her Hair, and then covered it with a Veil; she then took off her Gown, and put on the white Vest of the Order, and the whole concluded with the Nuns chanting an Hymn.

Six Months after this, every Votary thus initiated may claim the second Habit, with some Addition to the like Ceremony; and one Year after this second Period, she may make a Profession of her Vows, which is called the Year of Probation or Noviceship; yet even at this Time she may recede, as her Inclination calls her, which was just the Case of this charming young Lady, who left the Convent and came to England in 1756, no longer a recluse Votary of the Order of ST. AUGUSTINE, no more the sprightly Bab. D — n, but now the amiable Confort of Mr. T — ly of Lancashire.

Some-

Sometime after this Lady took the first Habit, I was favoured with an Invitation to see a young English Lady at the blue Nuns made a professed Nun. Lucy Lacy, or Lacy Talbot, Daughter to the late Earl of Sh——y, who, after going through her Noviceship with remarkable Rigour and Strictness, desired to be admitted into the Sisterhood at the Convent of blue Nuns, where she was educated. During the Celebration of the Mass, the Curtain was drawn before the Iron Grate which divides the Chappel, one Part of which belongs to the Nuns. At the Conclusion it was withdrawn, and discovered all the Nuns in their proper Stalls, habited and veiled, each holding a burning Wax Taper : In the Middle of the Choir, the Votary was kneeling cloathed in white, as an Emblem of Innocency ; before her was placed a large burning Taper, alluding to the perfect Light she was going to receive. Being thus prepared, one of their most celebrated Preachers from the Pulpit (in the other Division of the Chapel) addressed to her an extemporary Sermon, “ Exhorting her to recede, if her worldly Inclinations prevailed over the solitary recluse Life she was going to enter in ;”  
spoke



spoke of the three strict Vows, which she must inviolably keep, viz. Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience; and lastly concluded with a Panegyric on her laudable Resolutions; at the same Time reminding her, how many worthy Heroes her Family had produced, more particularly the great Lord TALBOT, and that he rejoiced to find her not degenerated from the noble Race of her illustrious Ancestors.

The Sermon being concluded, the grand Vicar, assisted by three of the Clergy, came close to the Grate, and demanded of the Votary, "What she requested?" She advanced (from the Middle of the Choir, where she kneeled) making three low Reverences, with a Taper in her Hand and a Manual, up to the Grate, and answered, "She came to make her Vows, and desired to be admitted among the holy Sisterhood as a professed Nun." After some few Interrogations by the Vicar, he presented her with a Crucifix and a Ring: The first as a Memorial that our Saviour suffered Death on the Cross, for the Redemption of the World—the Ring as an Emblem of her solemn Marriage to the Almighty. He then gave her the Veil and Habit of the Order;

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which

which the Abbess put on the Votary as she kneeled before her ; then a Chaplet of Flowers was put upon her Head, which the Vicar said, " Was an Emblem of a celestial Crown ;" then the Beads and Prayer Book ; afterwards the Silver Badge, in Form of an Heart, on which was the Virgin Mary engraved ; this was hung on a Ribbon, and put on her left Breast : Lastly, he gave her a burning Taper ; at the same Time reminding her, that every particular Badge, or Part of the Order, is presented merely as emblematical, and then gave a Benediction to every Badge of the holy Order which he had bestowed upon her. During this Time, the Abbess cloathed her as a professed Nun, and the whole Sisterhood chanted *Veni Creator*. After which the young Nun read to the Vicar, the Vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience, which she solemnly swears never to violate, and then registers her Name in the Convent Book, as a Sister of the Order. When this Part of the Ceremony was concluded, she prostrated herself flat on the Earth, in the Middle of the Choir ; and all the Nuns, with each a burning Taper, took hold of a black Velvet Pall, which they laid over her ; the Vicar at the same Time telling her,

" That

“ That from hence forward she must live as one buried to the World,”—and then the Choir of Nuns chant over her the funeral Service, concluding with *Requiescat in Pace, Secula Seculorum*, (Let her rest in Peace, World without End.) At length this awful, solemn Ceremony was concluded by Sister Talbot (her Name for ever after) saluting the Nuns, and the whole Choir chanting *Te Deum*.

As I am now upon the Topic of Prisons for the Ladies, I hope you will permit me to give a small Sketch of one equally detested by many of the English and French Nation : I mean the BASTILLE, or ROYAL STATE PRISON, well known through all Europe, and the Dread of the French, on the Account of its being in all Ages a perfect Scene of Blood : It is situated near PORT ST. ANTOINE ; the Building is of the Gothic Taste, and low, with eight regular Towers, which are surrounded on one Side by a deep Fossé. No Person is permitted to view the interior Part ; nor indeed is it any Place for a Stranger to gaze at with Safety ; such who are under the Displeasure of their absolute Monarch may soon gain Admittance ;

mittance ; but when under these Circumstances, and within the Gates, he may conclude his Exit from this transitory Stage will speedily draw to a final Period ; as the State-Prisoners are commonly executed in a private Manner. Round this Building there are few Lights or Windows, which make it as dismal as Imagination can possibly paint.

Most Strangers visit the Goblins, or Tapestry Manufacture, on Corpus Christi Day, when all the Courts about the House are lined with rich Tapestry, vastly curious ; where Nature is so exactly imitated by the Needle, that the most skilful Artist in Painting would admire it.

The triumphal Arches, or Gates of the City, are not the least remarkable Things here, and well deserve to be noticed by all Visitors. The principal are PORT ST. DENNIS, which is a most beautiful Arch seventy Feet high, in the Model of the antient triumphal Arches : The Bass-Reliefs on the Sides and Top represent the French passing the Rhine and the Waal, &c. with Inscriptions under. PORT ST. MARTIN, PORT ST. ANTOINE, PORT ST. BARNARD, &c. all which are adorned



adorned with Basso-Relievos, Trophies, and vain Inscriptions, in order to eternize the Reign of their IMMORTAL MAN.

Thus at length, I have made a Rotund of this Metropolis; a Difficulty at first which seemed to me almost insurmountable. If the Language does not always flow easy, but appears sometimes warped, I cannot much extenuate my Fault, though you ought to make some Allowances, for my being frequently called off to other Business, which consequently broke off the Thread of the Narration, which with Difficulty I entered into again. If every Page is not agreeable, it is no more than what I expected, though I endeavoured to please, as far as my Ability could soar; yet even in the most laboured Passages of these Letters, I ever had in my Memory these memorable Lines of HES.

Desire of Fame by various Ways is crost,  
Hard to be gain'd, and easy to be lost.

Therefore, if I have missed my Aim, in endeavouring to amuse, be for once friendly, and give me a gentle Hint, before I make Excursions into the adjacent Towns.

I am yours, &c.

K 3

A. R.



## L E T T E R VIII.

Description of ST. CLOUD, the Royal  
Mausoleum of ST. DENNIS, and  
Regalia of the Crown, &c.

DECEMBER 29, 1754.

S I R,



Was favoured with your Letter the  
20th Instant: I thank you for the  
welcome Reception you are pleased  
to give my Letters; indeed you pay me a great  
Compliment in saying, " You willingly and  
unwillingly solicit a Continuance of our Cor-  
respondence." Though, Sir, I must confess  
I am now in a Nation noted for Punctilios and  
Complaisance, yet I endeavour to avoid mere  
verbal Politesse; therefore I cannot make a  
more suitable Return, than a tacit Compliance  
to your Request. An Itch of Writing is as  
dangerous sometimes as the contagious Itch, as  
the one by minute Animaculæ burrowing un-  
der

der the Skin, produces loathsome Blotches, destroys the natural Hue of Nature, and contaminates the whole Mass of Blood *gradatim*—so the other insensibly enervates the Constitution, and hurries us into many Errors, even to write *ad infinitum* upon trifling Subjects, neither pleasing to the Reader, or laudable in the Dictator; a mere Multiplicity of Words, a Jargon of Expressions, is extremely fulsome and tedious: And indeed I much fear, that so many Letters (which I have wrote from Time to Time) merely descriptive, will prove equally insipid and somniferous. If this, Sir, should prove the Case, permit me to plead, that I do not fall under the word *Negligence*, or any Part of the twelfth Article, but must candidly confess an Error in Judgment and Ability.

Since my last Letter, I have made several Excursions into the adjacent Parts, to view their Palaces and Curiosities; the first I went to is called,

# S T. C L O U D.

This is the Palace, or Country Residence of LOUIS PHILIP Duke of ORLEANS, and the  
K 4 first

first Prince of the Blood. The House is pleasantly situated on an Eminence, on the Banks of the River SEINE, about five Miles from Paris : The most universal Way of going there is in the *Galliot* or Passage-boat (commonly called the *Coche d'Eau*), a most grotesque Figure, near forty Yards in Length and very narrow, without either a Mast or a Sail, and it is generally dragged along by Horses, fixed to long Ropes : The Fare to ST. CLOUD is no more than six Sols (Threepence English) each Passenger; and the Boat is commonly stowed full of the Bourgeois on those Days the Waterworks play, sometimes amounting to several Hundreds, some of whom make as much Preparation as for an India Voyage. In the *Voyage à St. Cloud*, several Boats of Gentlemen and Ladies passed the *Galliot*, who, according to their natural Complaisance, always saluted the Company by way of Politesse, as Merchant Ships do a Man of War : But this Salutation was in a far different Strain to what we met with in Paris, being no ways inferior to the complimentary Punctilios we are often saluted with by the Watermen on the Thames, or the learned Language of Billingsgate; but in reality you are sufficiently compensated



penfated for their rough Treatment, by the Variety of fine Prospects, Villages, and Gentlemen's Seats which you pafs ; fuch as the Villages of PASSY, AUTUEIL, BILLANCOURT, &c. The Chateau of MEUDON, belonging to the Dauphin, and the pleafant Chateau of BELLVEU, the famous Refidence of Madam POMPADOUR, Paramour to his prefent Majefty LOUIS XV.

The Chateau of ST. CLOUD ftands on a pleafant Hill, and is furrounded with fine rural Gardens : The Architecture is agreeable but not elegant ; but the Interior is well worth viewing, efpecially the long Gallery painted by MIGNARA, and ornamented with the Buftos of the Poets in oriental Marble. The Duke's Collection of Pictures here, are allowed to be exceeding well chofen, though inferior in Number to his Collection at the PALACE ROYAL : He has many Pieces here that cannot be excelled, if equalled ; fuch Attitude, that MICHAEL ANGELO might not blufh to own ; fuch Colouring, that might claim the mafterly Hand of RAPHAEL URBIN ; fuch Expreflion, that they feem to be in Relievo and pulpy, rifing from the Canvas like living Flefh,  
worthy

worthy the Name (of the great Cotemporary with ANGELO) ANDREA del SARTOS: In fine, there is here such elegant Pieces, and exact Imitations of Nature, which would even stagger the Aristotelian Philosophy.—*Magnanimus nihil admiratur.*” The principal Authors are MIGNARD, LE BRUN, POUSSIN, JOUVENET, LE SUEUR, CLAUDE LORRAIN, BON BOULOGNE, &c. Nor can I dismiss these great Artists without applying to their Manes, the remarkable Expression of King CHARLES the Second, upon a Painter shewing him a Portrait of a celebrated Court-Beauty, “Friend, I can say nothing more in Commendation of your Performance, than that you paint both the Inside and Outside too.”

The Gardens belonging to ST. CLOUD commences on the Banks of the SEINE, and ascends gradually to the Summit of a high Hill; they are pleasant and rural, and Art and Nature seem to reign by Turns. The most remarkable Thing here is the grand Cascade and *Jet d'Eau*, which the French say is the best in Europe; indeed it throws up a Column of Water prodigious high and with great Force; but nothing in Comparison to “A Fountain in Rome,

Rome, which throws up so large a Quantity of Water, as always to produce a Mist, and when the Sun shines obliquely upon it, a perfect Rainbow appears." (*Vide Voyage d'Italie par M. Wilson.*)

In the Village of ST. CLOUD, there is lately erected an agreeable Pile of Building, called the Porcelane Manufactory, which is now in great Esteem in Paris, to the great Detriment of the foreign China.

After viewing this delightful Seat of his Grace of Orleans, no Person ought to omit going two Miles more, to see the Chateau of MEUDON: The Castle is situated on an exceeding high Hill, and has delightful Gardens well laid out, from whence there is a fine Prospect of Paris. In going to MEUDON, we passed by the House of Madame POMPADOUR, situated on an Eminence on the Banks of the River; but we could not get Admittance to view the Interior, without an Ambassador's Ticket: In the Garden this Lady has erected a fine Marble Statue of her best Friend, in the Character of a Roman Emperor.

Near

Near ST. CLOUD is an exceeding high Hill, called Mount Calvary, on the Summit of which is a Convent of Carthusians, whose rigorous Rules obliges them to live in a very reclude Manner, or rather a continual Hermitage.

ST. GERMAINS is about twelve Miles from the Metropolis, and was formerly noted for being the Place of Retreat of King JAMES II. when in Exile: The Palace is situated on a Hill near the River; it is a massy Pile of Building, and in former Days thought magnificent, but has been in a State of Decay, since their Kings deserted it to live at VERSAILLES. The principal Thing here worth viewing, is the grand Terrace.

FOUNTAINBLEAU is another royal Hunting-Seat, about thirty-five Miles from Paris; it is situated in the Middle of a large Forest, and is an irregular Pile, but yet noble and grand; there is several fine Pieces of Water here, and Store of all Kinds of Game. The most remarkable Thing in the Chateau, is the Paintings in Ulysses' Gallery.

In



In going to CHOISY, another of the King's Hunting-Seats, we passed by a pleasant Chateau, which stands near the Village of CHARENTON, on the Banks of the River, which was formerly the Residence of Madame MAINTENON, Mistress to LOUIS XIV. a Lady universally allowed to be the most perfect Mistress in the Art of Love, that France could ever boast of.

There are many other Palaces worthy of the Inspection of a Stranger ; such as ANGERVILLE, ANNET, BASSVILLE, BRUNET, CHILY, LIVRY, MOUNT LOUIS, ISSY ; the Chateau of MADRID, built by FRANCIS I. Chateau of VINCENNES, ST. MAUR, CONFLANS, SCAUX, the Chateau of the Duke of MAIN. The most remarkable Things here are the Gardens, Apartments, and Orangery ; VAUX, the fine Paintings of LE BRUN ; CHANTILLY, the Seat of the Prince of CONDE, a most beautiful Place ; the House, Gardens, Waterworks, and magnificent Gallery, with a fine Statue of the Constable SILVIUS, and perhaps the most superb and elegant Stables for Horses in Europe ; all which claim a Stranger's Curiosity.

## S T. D E N N I S.

This small Town is noted throughout all France for its rich Convent, and for being the royal Mausoleum of the Kings of France. In this Church are a great Number of antique Brasses and Marble Monuments, and Effigies in full Proportion of the royal Family, whose last Remains are deposited here. In the Choir lies a Corpse in State, with Lamps perpetually burning round the Coffin; the Escutcheons indicates, that this is the Remains of the late King LOUIS le Grand; it being a custom in France never to lay the deceased Monarch under the Earth, until the Successor dies; so that the Corpse will thus continue lying in State till the succeeding Reign.

Every Sunday (except during the Lent) the Regalia of the Crown are shewn gratis, viz. The different Crowns, Scepters, Swords, and other Ensigns of Royalty, used at Coronations, of all the Kings of France. In the present King's Crown is the superb Diamond of Mr. PITT, who sold it to the Crown of France for 120,000l. Sterling; it weighed 127 Carats. They shewed us a Relic which is deemed sacred;

cred; it is the Cranium of the Patron of France, ST. DENNIS, inclosed in a large Case of Gold: Among the rest of the Regalia, the Keeper of the Treasury put into my Hand an old rusty Sword; and with a triumphant Smile told us, "It was the Sword of the great Lord TALBOT," who made France to tremble in HENRY Vth's Reign, and HENRY VIth's: On the Blade is this Motto, *Ego sum Talboti*, not very elegant Latin you'll say: Another Relic he shewed, inclosed in a Gold Case; it was, he told us, the real Nail which the Jews fixed in our Saviour's right Foot at his Crucifixion: He shewed likewise several other Relics enchased in Gold, and highly ornamented with precious Stones; but I am sorry to say, that his Accounts of the Relics and their Virtues, were highly romantic, and required a great Share of tacit Credulity, to regard all he spoke about them as Facts: Indeed no Person gave him the least Contradiction, as we were obliged to shew him great Respect, in regard to his sacerdotal Character, and the royal Insignia of the Office he officiated in; though I would recommend one short Sentence, by him to be spoke after the descriptive Part of every Relic.

Si

*Si Populus vult decipi—decipiat.*

ST. DENNIS is about five Miles from Paris, and is one of the most pleasant Jaunts about the adjacent Country. The Road is quite agreeable, as we passed through a Visto of Trees all the Way ; and the Multiplicity of Hares and Partridges, sporting and playing quite round us exceeding tame, gave us great Pleasure. We passed by a high Hill called MONTMARTRE, a Place in great Esteem with the Religious, on the Account of ST. DENNIS their Patron being beheaded there : His Effigy is always made with his Head in his Hands ; and indeed they tell us most surprising Tales about him, such lavish Accounts, that Modesty obliges me to omit mentioning.

You desire me to say something in regard to the Characters of the French Nation : This, Sir, is a Topic I must either be silent on, or vastly concise ; for I think no Person can undertake this Subject with Propriety, unless they were to reside some Time among the Nation they pretend to criticise ; however, for your private Satisfaction, I shall freely communicate



cate the few Observations I have made on this particular Part.

It is well known, that the frequent Wars between the two Nations, has always kept alive a reciprocal Hatred ; therefore we can pay but little Regard to many People who single out a few Instances to justify their Contempt of the whole Nation. In regard to the Personages of the Men, we may justly say that they are like our own Nation ; tall and short, handsome and ordinary, proportionable and deformed ; sprightly, active, and agreeable in Conversation ; temperate in Diet and Drinking ; but in general, I may say, both the Males and Females are inclined to Leanness. Their Genius more particularly tends to study the Arts and Sciences ; but the military Art and Science of Defence, are their favourite Studies. They are extremely lavish in Dress, and pride themselves much in this Taste, and in every Thing relating to it ; they esteem themselves the Leaders of Europe ; their Modes in Dress are a mere Hydra with many Heads, one of which is no sooner cut off, than another springs up. Though I say the French change the Fashions almost with the Moon, yet I do not pretend

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to insinuate, that they are People of the greatest Levity and Inconstancy in Europe : However decisive the Expression I use may appear, permit me to remind you, that I never take upon me to decide ; for what single Person can presume to summon a whole Nation to his own Tribunal ?

The Ladies (who I mention with the greatest Veneration) may claim a great Part of the foregoing *Skizo*. Their greatest Fault is the immoderate painting of their Faces ; so high her Station, so high the Scarlet advances, even to the Tincture of a florid Carmine : If the Wife of a Bourgeois lays on half an Ounce of Vermeille, certainly Madame la Duchesse may reasonably claim one Ounce, to make her the more conspicuous. I have been often told, that no Woman paints here but the Lady of Quality, and the *Fille de Joie* ; but if this Rule was strictly true, we Foreigners would have Reason to imagine, that every Woman we meet, is of Quality or the contrary. In general they are fine personable Women, and walk in a more majestic Manner than most Nations ; they have free easy Shapes, as few are encumbered with stiff Stays as in England ;

at this time their Heads are bare, and their Hair decorated in the gayest Taste. They are sprightly and witty in Conversation, and love Raillery to Excess; they affect Freedom and Gallantry; nor are they troubled with that Fiend called Jealousy: Their Conversation mostly tends to double Entendres, Fashions, Plays, Operas, and Bawbles, or such a String of pretty Trifles; yet it must be allowed, that they are complete Mistresses of the pleasing *Agremens* in Conversation, but a little too talkative. This Hint may perhaps be useful to the mathematical Gentlemen who are now labouring to find out the Longitude; for almost every pretty French Lady can furnish them with a *perpetuum Mobile*.

But to draw both their Characters to a Period: They generally affect a peculiar Politeness to all Strangers, always profess a Friendship, and almost stifle you with Caresses and Embraces; yet we ought to be cautious of forming a Judgment of them from their flattering Address and complimentary Punctilios. Notwithstanding all these fine Talents, we soon find them inconstant and changeable in their Behaviour, and they seldom grow in

our Esteem. How laudable would it be, if every Subject of France had this remarkable Sentence of their own Countryman perpetually in their Memory ! “ How much it were to be wished for them (the English) and us, that the Wisdom of our Morals attracted them as much as the Politeness of our Behaviour.” (Abbé le BLANC’s Letters on the English Nation.) A certain modern Author styles Paris, “ The Fountain-head of Vice and Folly ; and that the English are too great Dupes to the French, and sacrifice their Ease to the Fashions of a genteel Air, and curse the Nation with the Importation of Bawbles, Cooks, Barbers, and Valets ; a Race of People who crowd to England, on the money-getting Principle.” Thus we condemn and yet imitate them, and even adopt their Modes and Manners. Every Man extols his native Country, and the Love of our Country is the Effect of Self-love, by which we insensibly extol ourselves ; but what Nation is there, wherein there are not many Things commendable and blameable to be found ?

PARIS is an inland City, and has but little Trade ; yet, notwithstanding, it has more external



ternal Splendor and Magnificence than that Mistress of the Globe LONDON: In fine, it has ever been deemed the Centre of Europe with the Beau-monde, and no Person of Fortune in France lives in the Country; if they do it is in a frugal Manner to save Money, in order to make a more grand Appearance in the gay World, and sparkle with more *Eclat*, as it is a well known Maxim here, "There can be no Life out of dear Paris;" and I much doubt, if this very Principle is not too much inculcated by Foreigners of every Nation. Thus it being the constant Residence of their numerous Nobility, and a Loadstone to all Strangers; we are partly prepared to expect the dazzling Face of Opulence in their gay Equipages, Groups of Valets, &c. more than in London. Such of the French who are acquainted with England, allow that our Soil is more fertile than theirs, and our Trade extensive, and the Nation rich: On the contrary, their Soil is not very fertile, and their Trade inconsiderable, except in their great maritime Towns, such as Lyons, Marseilles, Bourdeaux, &c. But every Climate has its particular Advantages, and every Advantage is attended with particular Inconveniencies: Though

France has not the Verdure of England, yet it is much drier, and not so subject to Fogs, and consequently must be much more healthy than our Country.

The Plebeians in general are miserably poor, and greatly oppressed by the Nobility, who are all petty Tyrants, and the Peasants their mere Slaves : Though the Nobles have large Estates, yet we may say that these Riches are but in a few Hands ; and if we must allow them to be as opulent as their Neighbours, we may at the same Time say they are poor. To define this Paradox, it is a well known Maxim that Wealth, when properly divided, enriches and strengthens the State, but when confined in a few Purse greatly impoverishes the common People ; for by accumulating the Vitals of the Country, its Circulation is totally obstructed. The sad Effects of ill contrived Oeconomy is extremely visible in all the Country Towns and Villages in France, where the Cultivation of the Land, and the Welfare of the Farmer, are the least Objects of the legislative Power.

Hail

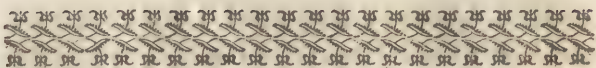
Hail, O happy England! Land of Liberty!  
Asylum of the Oppressed! where Humanity  
dictates, and Experience indicates the Wisdom  
of thy Laws; that permits the honest Farmer  
to sow and reap, to labour for himself and not  
for others, and where every Cottage smiles  
with Content! Happy indeed would thy In-  
habitants be, if they had a right Idea of the  
singular Advantages scarcely known in many  
Countries, equalled by few, and excelled by  
none! As the Poet sweetly sings:

England protected by the Almighty's Hand,  
Still shines the Envy of each neighbouring Land;  
Skill'd in each Grace, she chose the purest Part,  
And crop't the Flow'rs from every blooming Art.

I am, Sir, with Esteem,

Yours, &c.

A. R.



## L E T T E R IX.

Description of Versailles, 'Trianon,  
Marly, Waterworks, Gardens, Sta-  
tues, and the Procession of the  
Knights of the St. ESPRIT, &c.

JAN. 30, 1755.

S I R,



His is the last Letter you must expect  
to receive from me, while I am in  
this Quarter of the World, being now  
about to finish the Description of this famous  
Metropolis. As in my first Epistle I commenced  
with the descriptive Part of those truly misera-  
ble Cabins on the Road between Calais and  
Paris, and traced numerous inferior Scenes  
to those of a politer Goût, so I now proceed to  
the Fountain-Head, whose Description will  
put a Period to our Correspondence.



## V E R S A I L L E S.

The Palace of VERSAILLES is the ordinary Residence of the royal Family ; it lies in a Valley about eleven or twelve Miles from Paris. In going there we stopped at Seve, to view the King's Wine-Cellars, which are curious, and likewise the Porcelane Manufactory lying close to the high Road.

The Front of the Chateau of VERSAILLES, as it at first presents to the great Road, appears an immense Pile, yet at the same Time not very pleasing to the Eye. This Frontispiece was built in 1661, of the Corinthian and Doric Orders ; it forms two large Wings, with a large Square before it, surrounded with fine Pallisadoes of Iron ; on the right Wing lies the Chappel, and on the left the royal Apartments. The Frontispiece to the Gardens is of a more modern Date, being built in 1678 ; and if there is any Part of this Chateau curious it can be only this Part, which contains one hundred and thirty-one large Sash-Windows in a Line, from End to End. This over-grown Edifice was but in a mean State in LOUIS XIIIth's Reign, being then only a Hunting-Seat ; but LOUIS le Grand  
taking

taking a Fancy to the Spot, augmented and adorned it in the superb Manner it is seen at present. The royal Apartments are grand, more especially the long Gallery, which is superb, and about two hundred Feet in Length; it is ornamented with large Pannels of Glafs, instead of Wainscot or Tapestry, fine Paintings of LE BRUN, and several valuable antique Bustos; as likewise are all the other Apartments decorated with curious Statues and fine Paintings. In one of the Anti-Chambers, we are shewn an original Piece of RAPHAEL URBIN, representing ST. MICHAEL and the Dragon, which is esteemed by the Connoisseurs as a most exquisite Piece of Painting. I cannot mention RAPHAEL's immortal Name, without reminding you of the Honour paid to his Memory by his Countrymen,

Hic situs est RAPHAEL, timuit, quo Sospite,  
vinci

Rerum magna Parens, et Moriente, Mori.

Living, great Nature feared he might outvie  
Her Works, and dying, fears herself may die.

(Vide his monumental Inscription.)

In

In another Apartment is a curious Piece of Machinery, which I had the Pleasure to hear was executed by an Englishman. It represents a Clock, which when the Hour is drawn to a Period, a brazen Eagle and Cock expand their Wings, the one crows, and the other makes a Kind of squeaking Noise ; a Door then opens, and two Men as Centinels advance and give the Signal, by knocking at a Door above them ; the Alarum being given this Door opens, and Louis le Grand advances forwards, when Victory descends and places a Crown of Laurels upon his Head. When the Clock has done chiming, all retire into the Cafe in the same regular Manner.

Upon the whole, I may sincerely say to you, that neither the Interior or Exterior of VERSAILLES answered my Expectations ; nor was it any ways equal to the Ideas that we Strangers are prepared to expect : Indeed the Immenfity of the Building at first View strikes one with an Air of Magnificence and Grandeur ; but it will not bear a close Infpection, as the Irregularity of the Building (by being executed at different Times) may be liable to very severe Criticisms,

Criticisms, more especially as your Ideas are primarily wrought up to such a Pitch, to expect nothing less than a terrestrial Paradise. I shall now quit this imaginary Beauty, to enter into the Description of the Appendages of this Place, which really merit our Curiosity, viz. the Gardens, Waterworks, &c.

Before I speak of these, I ought to take Notice of the royal Stables ; however odd it may seem to descend from a Palace to a Stable, yet I make no doubt that in Point of Architecture, the Stables may claim a Preference to the Chateau. They are built before the Avenues of the Palace in separate Places, each forming an half Rotund, and have an exact Symmetry through the whole Structure. Here are kept a large Stud of Horses (belonging to the Court) of all Countries, and at least one thousand of them English, which are in so much Esteem in France, that the Gentlemen in general ride no other.

The Gardens of VERSAILLES are vastly extensive, and cover a large Space of Ground, which is divided into innumerable pleasant Walks and rural Alleys, which are most profusely



fully crowded with Variety of Marble Statues; some representing historical Pieces, with four, five, and six proportionable Figures in a Group; others, all the Heathen Gods and Goddesses in the Pintheon, with the Seasons, and the four Elements; in the other Alleys, the Bustos of the most celebrated Poets; a fine Copy of Venus, from that inimitable Statue in the Florence Gallery; and a dying Myrmillo exquisitely wrought; besides many Scores of others, all which are executed in a most masterly Manner, which Words would in vain attempt to express, and can only convey at the best but a faint Idea of their Beauties, where Measure, Harmony, and Movement is given, and Nature seems perfectly animated by the Expression of Art. Under CORNEILLE's Bust, was the following Lines wrote with a Pencil:

Posteritas pene parem populum Urbi dedit,  
Quam Natura Procreavit.

The Waterworks in the Gardens are the Surprise of all Beholders; but I can only give you a Sketch of these glorious Monuments of LOUIS le Grand's Vanity, which are equally admirable as the Statues; such Magnificence  
and

and Elegance combined together, even startles our Imagination : To give a minute Description, would require a more artful Pen than mine ; therefore I can only mention them in a cursory Manner. Here is a Dolphin, which as a Jet d'Eau, casts up the Water near sixty Feet high, which is surrounded with all Kinds of Animals, who display their aqueous Wonders ; others representing Neptune and the Sea Nymphs, in Chariots drawn by Sea Horses all in full Proportion ; others in the Labyrinth, representing the Fables of Æsop, each Figure in the Fable casts out Water, and requires a Caution to keep at a proper Distance, otherwise they will be intrapped ; others forming large pyramidal Fountains, &c. Jet d'Eaus, Pillars, Cascades, triumphal Arches, Mountains of Water ; and others, representing the Basons of Apollo, Ceres, Saturn, Latona, Flora, and Bacchus, &c. &c. with a thousand different Kinds of Waterworks too tedious to minute particularly : In fine, they are allowed to be the completest of any in Europe ; nor are the Gardens any where to be paralleled ; all the beautiful Models that Italy and other Parts of the World could afford, were imitated here and brought to great Perfection, in order

to triumph over all the Gardens in the Universe.

About half a League from VERSAILLES (within the Gardens) is the delightful Summer-House, or more properly called the Seat of Love, TRIANON, built in the Taste of an Italian Villa, by the particular Desire of Madame MAINTENON: The Exterior is crufted over with variegated Marble, which adds a moft extraordinary Luftre to the Edifice; the Interior is painted white, in Imitation of China, and decorated with fine Paintings, representing the Wars of LOUIS le Grand, and the different Views of the Waterworks when playing off. The fame Distance from the Chateau, on the left Side, is the Menagery of foreign Animals and Birds, which are fhewn gratis on the State Days that the Waterworks play; in regard to Quadrupeds, that at the Tower of London has the Superiority, and this for Variety of curious foreign Birds. In going to this Place, we paffed the grand Canal, faid to be 1700 Yards in Length, in which are feveral Pleasure-Boats for the Court to divert themfelves in. We amused ourfelves at VERSAILLES three Days, and then proceeded to  
view

view MARLI, about two Leagues from the Palace.

The Gardens of MARLI are much smaller than those of VERSAILLES ; but are laid out with much more methodical Regularity than the former, and are in the same Manner most profusely adorned with fine Statues. The Waterworks of this Place in many Things excel those at VERSAILLES, particularly the grand Cascade, which resembles a River of Water tumbling from a Mountain ; in another Part of the Garden, there is a Cascade which resembles Sheets of Silver, as the Water streams down the Marble Stairs, and at the same Time roars like Thunder, so as greatly to surprise the Spectators.

The Chateau of MARLI is within the Gardens ; the Building is a direct Square in the modern Taste, and the Exterior is adorned with Painting in Fresco, the Interior with fine Paintings of the Wars of the late King : But what is most curious, is two Pieces of Tapestry Scenes in DON QUIXOTTE, where Nature is so exactly imitated, that a Painter would applaud the Artist. This Chateau is commonly



monly called the King's Play-House, from the Court diverting themselves here with Variety of Games of Chance: Behind the House are twelve pleasant Pavillions, six on each Side, painted in Fresco: These belong to the royal Family and Officers of the Court, and are designed for Collations, &c.

As we were within a few Miles of the grand Source of the Waterworks, our Curiosity led us to view the Machine of MARLI, which is here esteemed as one of the greatest Pieces of Mechanism that the World ever produced; it is situated upon a Branch of the River Seine, between the Parish of CHAUSSEE and the Village of MARLI, from whence it derives its Name.

The Machine is composed of fourteen Wheels, ranged in proper Order: On the River is two hundred and twenty-five Pumps, which throws the Water every Time the Wheels turn round five hundred Feet high; the Water is conducted by Conduits of Iron which join the Pumps, and then creep up a high Hill, being one hundred and forty-eight Feet higher than the River. These Tubes ex-

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tend about fix hundred Feet up to the Reservoir; and from thence it is raised up by seventy-nine Pumps, to be carried in Leaden Pipes to a Tower on a high Hill, a great Distance from the Reservoir. From this Tower it is cast along a magnificent Stone Aqueduct of thirty-nine Arches, about seven hundred Feet in Length, which stands on a Hill about half a Mile from the Pumps on the River; it is then conducted by Iron Tubes to the Reservoirs of MARLI, which is about seven hundred Feet from the Aqueduct. From the Reservoirs of MARLI, the Water is forwarded to the Reservoir of LUCIENNE, from whence it is carried to VERSAILLES, CHENAIS, ROQUECOURT, CHEVRELOUP, and TRIANON. From the Reservoir of MARLI to VERSAILLES, it is about five Miles.

When the River is high, it furnishes the Reservoirs of MARLI with only three Inches of Water in Height, in twenty-four Hours. The Chevalier de VILLE was the Inventor and Conductor of this Machine, who had under him continually fifty Workmen to keep it in Repair; and the French pretend to say, the  
annual

annual Expence at this Time is twenty thousand Pounds.

It is a common Observation, that LOUIS XIV. always took a particular Pleasure in forcing Nature; such as by erecting the Palace of VERSAILLES on a Spot void of a Prospect to recommend it, or any other Qualification to render it agreeable, excepting merely what Art has contributed: He made Choice of a Place to erect this expensive Water-Machine, at least two Leagues from the Palace; but had he chose a properer Situation, such as ST. GERMAINS for the Chateau, these inimitable Waterworks would not have cost the tenth Part of the Sum which was expended in erecting them at MARLI: But what cannot a boundless Treasure and the Will of an absolute Monarch effect, whose greatest Study seems to be immortalizing his Memory, at the Expence of his faithful Subjects?

I have already taken Notice of the unpleasing heavy Prospect that the Palace at first appears to the Eye, and how little upon Examination it grows in our Esteem; but by the Encomiums I have bestowed upon the Gardens, Statues, and

Waterworks, you now perhaps imagine me captivated with these Scenes of Elegance and Dignity, which cannot be rivalled in any other Part of the Globe. I must confess I was greatly disgusted at the first View of the Palace, by having my Imagination strung up so high, but then the Appendages to the Palace gave me a sufficient Recompence; take it altogether indeed it is a most magnificent Place, and all Italy seems to have been searched to centre here. The Groves, Grottos, Labyrinths, Cascades, Jet d'Eaus, Orangeries, and Fountains, are so well executed, that they may be said to excel all the fictitious Descriptions of the most animated Imagination; and neither Prints, or lavish Words, can only at the best convey a faint Idea; and nothing less than an actual View, can satisfy a Stranger's Curiosity of their Reality. There are many Gentlemen who pretend to say, that neither Sculpture or Painting have as yet passed the Alps; but I am willing to believe, that these Censurers have never been in Paris, which would have convinced them, that these Arts are taught here in great Perfection, at the academical School at the LOUVRE, which many



Connoisseurs say greatly excel even that at  
VENICE.

On the State Days, such as that of the Pentecost, ST. LOUIS, and the Audience of Ambassadors, all Foreigners have an Opportunity of viewing the Court in its Brilliancy, with their grand Processions of the Knights, &c. and in the Evening the Waterworks are exhibited in their greatest Perfection. On the Pentecost was the Procession of the Knights of the ST. ESPRIT (or Holy Ghost) from the royal Apartments to the Chapel, which proceeded as follows:

1. The Musicians of the Court, with Trumpets, Drums, &c. 2. The Swiss Body Guards, cloathed in blue, faced with red, and richly laced with Silver, and in their Hats white Feathers, with embroidered Sashes over their Shoulders; most of these Guards were Soldiers of Fortune, having the Order of ST. LOUIS on their Breasts. 3. The Yeomen of the Court, in Number one Hundred, habited like those in ENGLAND, with this Difference, that their Vests were loose and tufted with Silks of various Colours; round their Necks  
they

they wore large Ruffs, resembling the Mode in Queen Elizabeth's Reign. 4. The Herald of the Order in scarlet Sattin, embroidered with Gold. 5. The Officers of the Order in proper Habits. 6. The Knights, in Number one Hundred, habited in the Order, which was a black Velvet trailing Mantle, spangled with Gold Flower de Lucés, a Chain of Gold round the Neck, interlaced with enamelled Shells, and on the left Side of the Mantle a large Silver Star, in which was a Dove, as an Emblem of the Order; and under the Coat a broad blue Ribbon, with a Cross attached to it, and a black Velvet Hat and Feather, completed the Ornaments of the Order. 7. After the Knights had ranged themselves in two Lines on each Side of the Chapel, the Princes of the Blood entered, viz. The Duke of Orleans, Princes of Conti, Condè, Count Cleremont Tonnere, Count de la Marche, &c. with the Dauphin \* of France, and the King

\* LOUIS Dauphin of France, was born at Versailles in 1729. He is about the same Stature of his Father, and very fat; but, has neither the Vivacity or handsome Face of the King. " Il s'appelle le Dauphin, à cause qu' Humbert le Dauphin du Vennois, resigna le Dauphiné au Roi PHILIPPE VI. surnommé de VALOIS, à Condition que le premier Fils du Roi seroit appelé Dauphin." As the

King \*, who kneeled, during the Mass, in the Centre of the Chapel, surrounded by the Princes. In a short Time after, the Queen † and the Princesses ‡ appeared at the Front of the Gallery, the rest of the royal Family being private in the Boxes : During the Mass, a young Lady of the Court went round the royal Fa-

the Father takes a great deal of Exercise, so on the contrary the Son uses very little, which will probably be some Loss to England when he comes to reign, in regard to the Horse Merchandize.

\* LOUIS XV. King of France and Navarre, surnamed *Le bien aimé* (best beloved) was born at Versailles in 1710, crowned at Rheims 1722, and married at Fontainebleau in 1725. The King, in regard to his Personage, is of a middling Stature, proportionable and thin, has quite a soldier-like Countenance, with a remarkable Vivacity in his Eyes ; for his being inclined to Leanness we may not wonder, since his Activity, frequent Hunting, and other immoderate Exercises, is sufficient to destroy half his Court, without they had Herculean Constitutions like himself.

† Maria Queen of France and Navarre (Daughter of STANISLAUS of Poland) was born in 1703. She is of a low Stature, thin, and no Beauty ; but what is a more lasting Beauty is her religious Life, and shunning the Pomp of a magnificent Court : She is likewise remarkable for being the only Lady in the Court who does not paint : On the State-day she was dressed in a plaine teel Manner without any Jewels.

‡ The Mademoiselles of France are ADELAIDE, VICTOIRE, SOPHIA, and LOUISA ; are all of a low Stature, and have agreeable Faces, with fine lively Eyes, as most of the Bourbon Family have ; but for their Persons altogether, are none of them Medicean Beauties. These Ladies on State-Days are perfectly loaded with Jewels, &c.

mily

mily and the Knights, to beg Money for the Poor and Sick, which Contribution amounted to a considerable Sum. After the Celebration of the Mass, the Knights conducted the King into his Apartment in the same regular Order, and then dispersed.

I must now hasten to a Conclusion of these Letters, having, according to my Abilities, finished the Description of every Thing materially worth the Curiosity of a Foreigner in this famous Metropolis and the adjacent Parts. In the descriptive Part, I have adhered to Truth as near as possible, and have advanced but few Things but what I had ocular Demonstration : I must confess myself obliged to several Authors for many Quotations, being more particularly compelled to consult the History of France, in regard to the Dates of their public Edifices ; and I often found it necessary to consult the Ecclesiastical History of venerable BEDE, with many other Authors I found in the public Libraries. Such Subjects that were intricate, I took particular Pains in searching Variety of Accounts, in order not to deviate from Truth, and amuse you with fictitious Tales, which I flatter myself may in  
some



some Measure render this Plagiarism excusable; as it is well known, a verbal Account from the Natives is not always satisfactory, and even a bare Transcription extremely liable to Errors: But what may plead more strongly in my Favour, I commonly found the Parisians very ignorant of their own History, and knew no more of the different Rules and Orders of the Religious than they did of the Koran; even in their own Authors I was obliged to be very cautious, and insert few Particulars without ocular Proof, as I generally found their Accounts lavish, and every Trifle highly magnified.

The next Month I intend to begin my Route by Way of Flanders, in order to visit the fortified Towns, and the most remarkable Scenes of Action during the late War; and probably, by the Middle of March, I may have the Pleasure of seeing you in Old England, and to sing with the Poet,

Dulcis Amor Patriæ.

I am Yours, &c. A. R.

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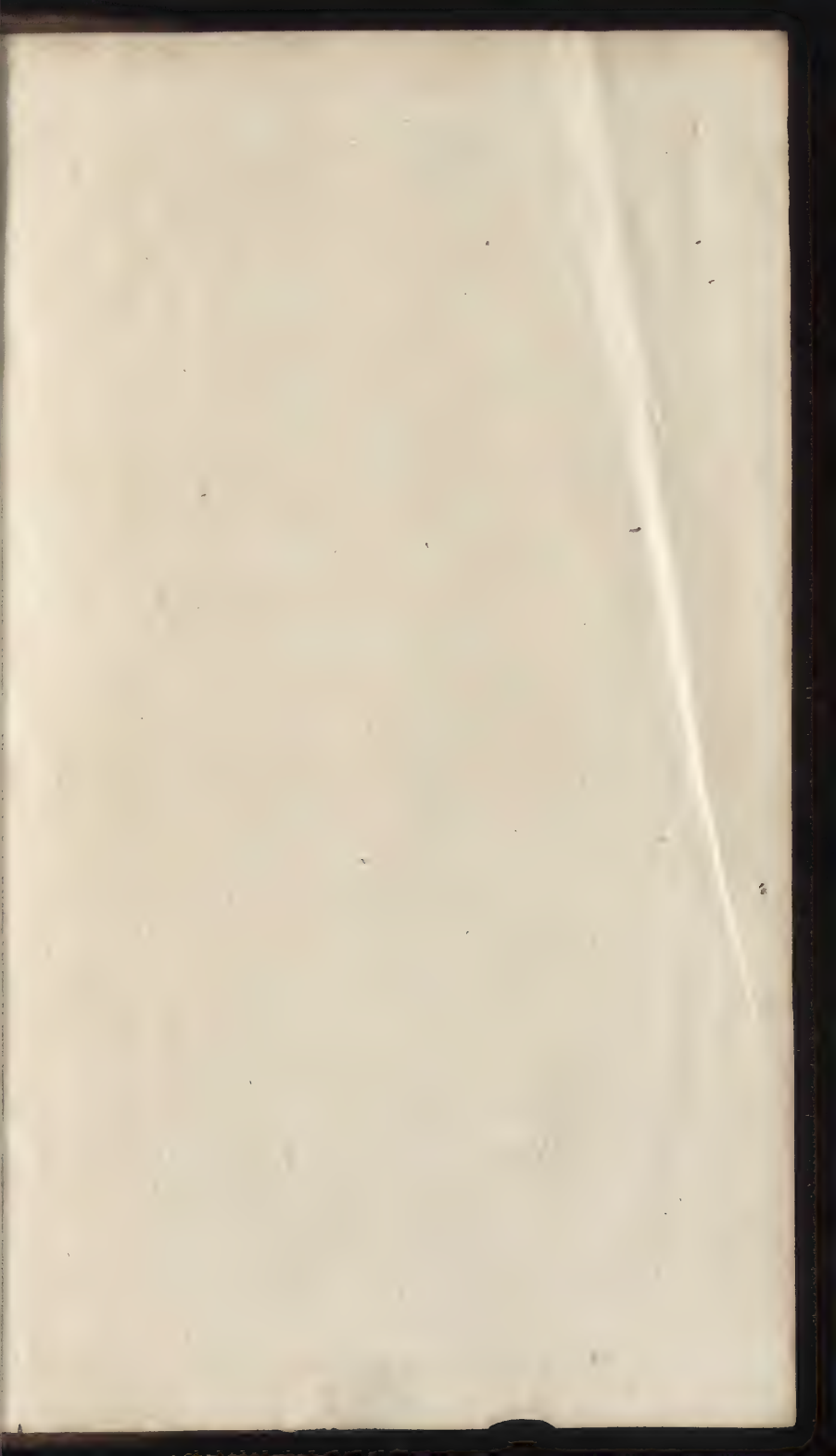
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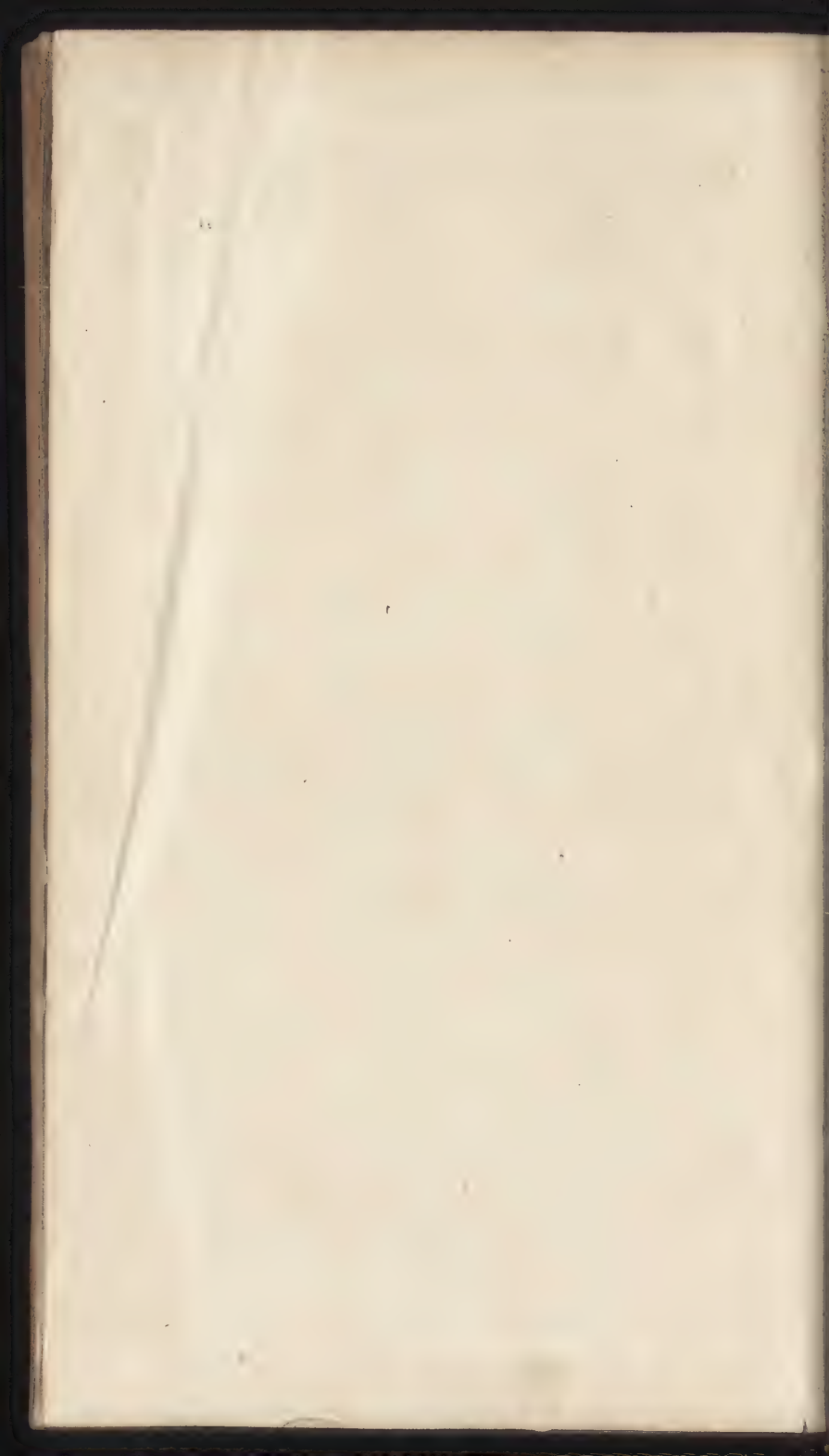
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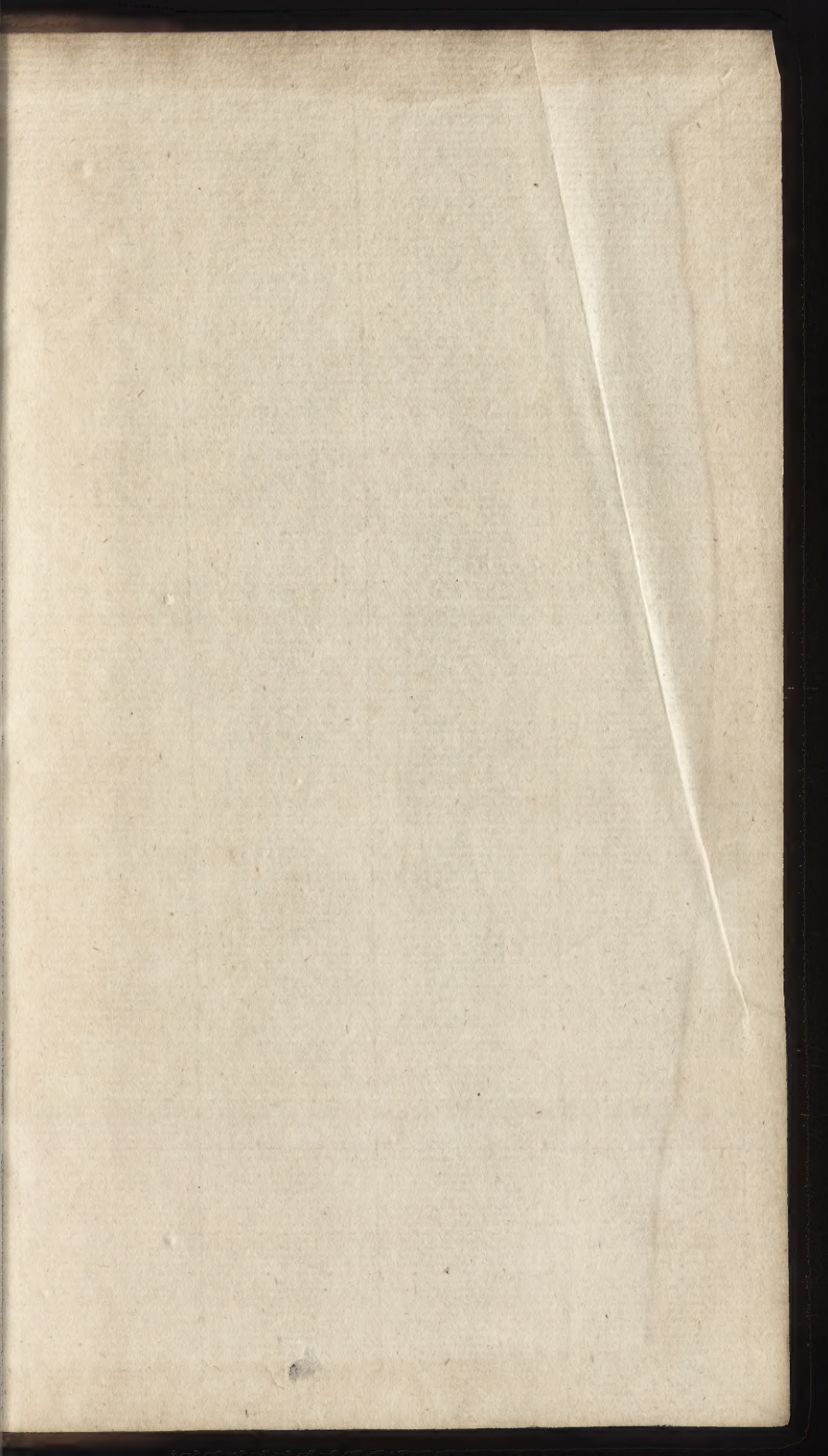
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